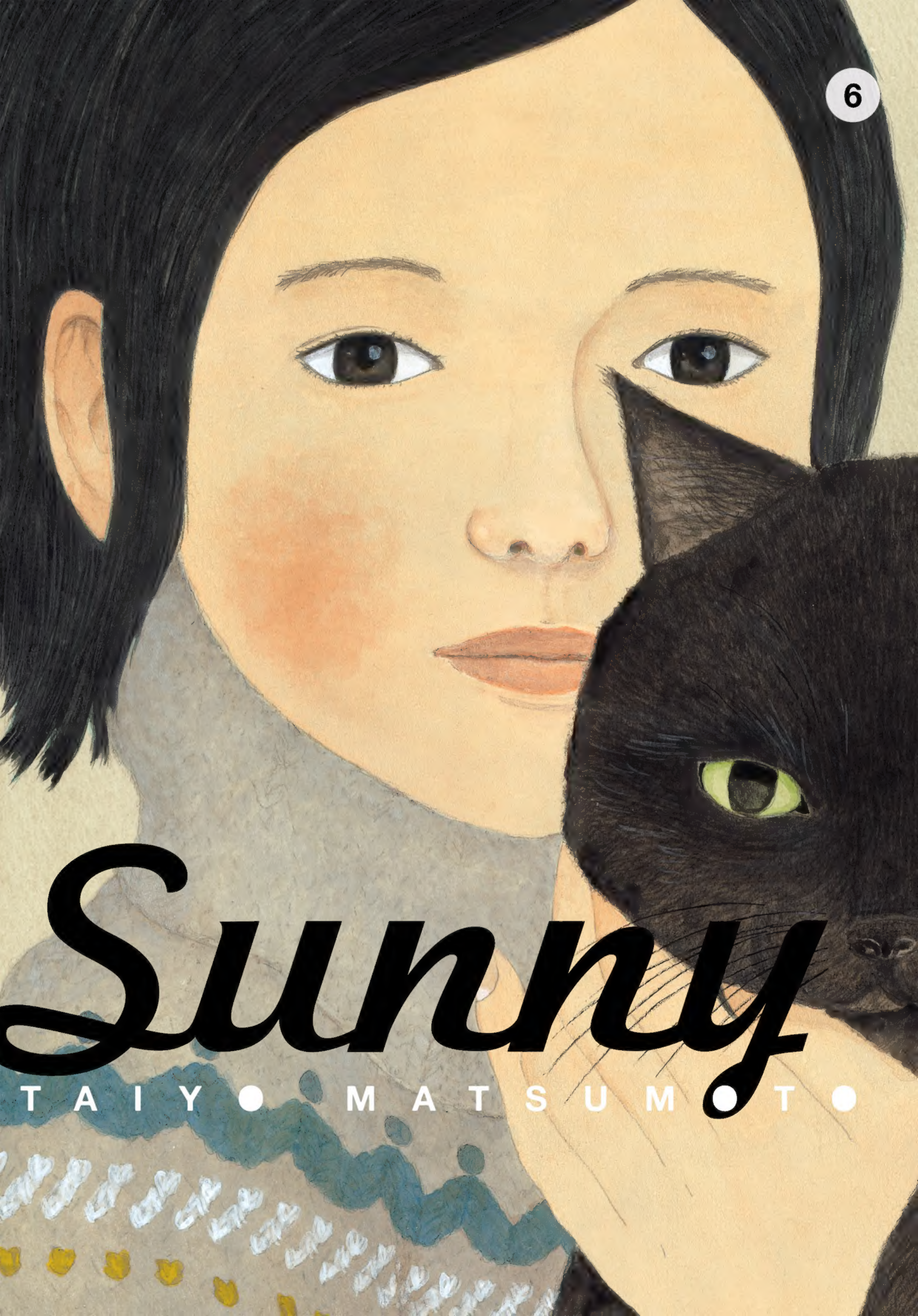
6
Sunny
TAIYO MATSUMOTO

10M

ny
6

Sunn

TAIYO MATSUMOTO

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CHAPTER 31

"Five
frantic fat
frogs fled."

"Fifty
fierce fuzzy
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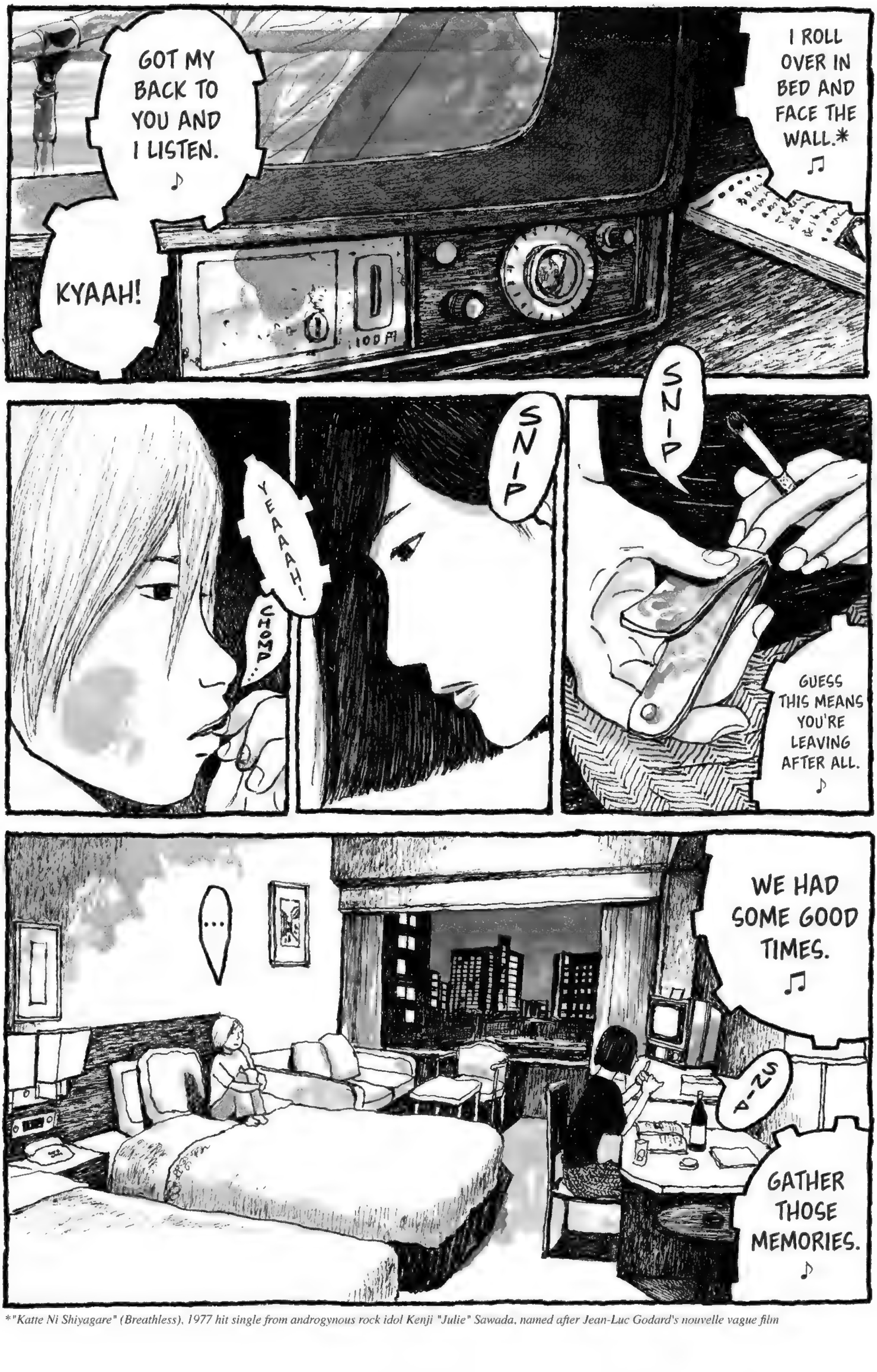
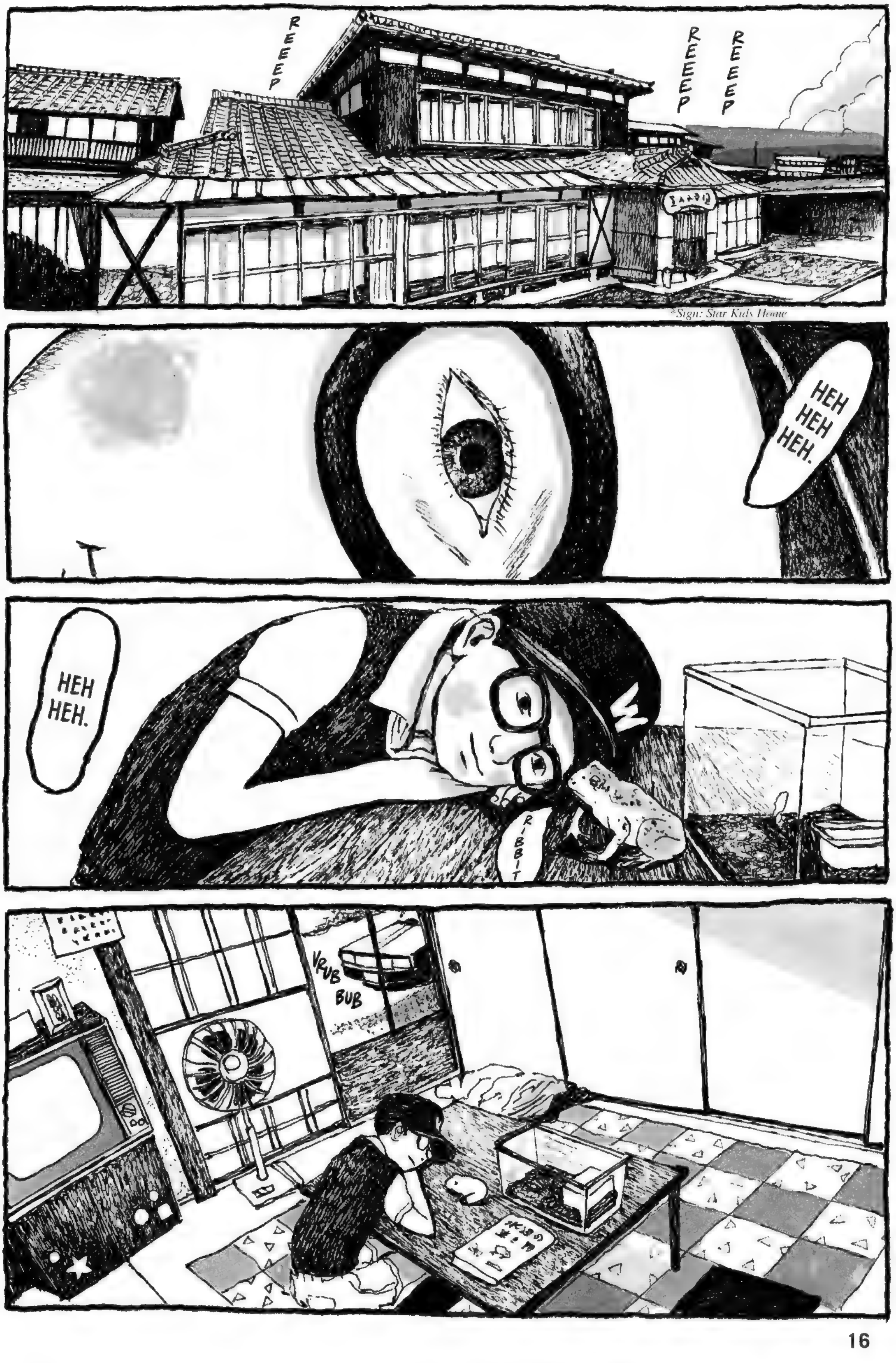


*"*Katte Ni Shiyagare*" (*Breathless*), 1977 hit single from androgynous rock idol Kenji "Julie" Sawada, named after Jean-Luc Godard's nouvelle vague film

*Sign: Lake Biwa Hotel

I'LL PRETEND I'M SLEEPING. ♪
SO JUST SLIP OUT THE DOOR. ♪
AHHHHH! ♪
AHHHHH!
IF WE'RE JUST GONNA GO TO YONEYAMA I MIGHT AS WELL STAY BACK AT THE HOME ...
KYAH!
WELL THEN ...
IF THAT'S HOW YOU FEEL...
SQUEAL!
JU-LIEEE!
ANOTHER GREAT SONG FROM KENJI SAWADA!
YEAH!

長浜琵琶湖HO
Sign: Nagahama Lake Biwa Hotel

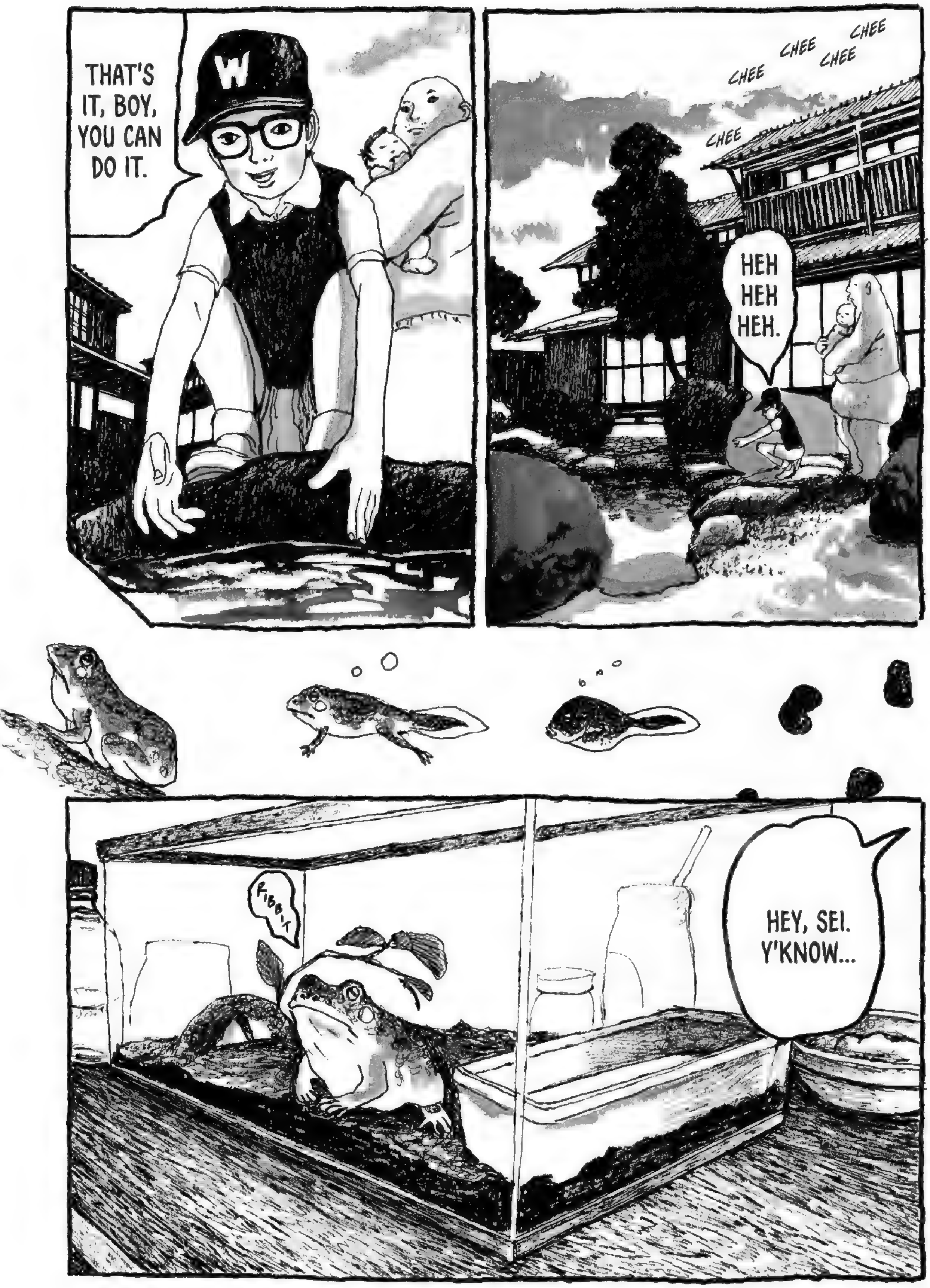

REEEP
REEEP
REEEP
*Sign: Star Kids Home
HEH HEH HEH.
HEH HEH.
RIBBIT
VRUB BUB

HARUO ?
VRUBBUB
WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE, SEI?
AIN'T YOU GOIN' TO YOUR DAD'S FOR THE SUMMER?

OH YEAH?
RIBBIT
I CAME BACK AFTER TWO DAYS.
MY DAD'S BUSY RIGHT NOW...
WHO'S AT THE HOME NOW?
MIND YOUR OWN BEES-WAX!
GET KICKED OUT?
YOU'RE BACK EARLY TOO...
SHE'S GOT *NOWHERE* TO GO!!
WENT TO SEE HER RELATIVES IN HAKODATE.
WHAT ABOUT MEGUMU?
TARO, KENJI, ASAKO AND CHIAKI I GUESS...

...
HAKO-DATE...
SHE GOT ALL EXCITED BECAUSE SHE'S NEVER BEEN ON A PLANE BEFORE.
WHAT'S WITH THE FROG?
SAVED HIM FROM GETTING RUN OVER ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD.
RIBBIT
I NAMED HIM HIRAMATSU.
WE'RE FAMILY NOW.
NAMING A FROG?! GIMME A BREAK!!
MORON!

VRRR.
SKREE KEE KEE.
VRUMMM.
RIBBIT
BABOOM.
HEY, HIRA-MATSU.
C'MERE, BOY...


THAT'S IT, BOY, YOU CAN DO IT.
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
HEH HEH HEH.
RIBBIT
HEY, SEI. Y'KNOW...

IT'S *DISTRACTING* EVERYONE.
GOO
OH... BUT...
IT'S GROSS!
YEAH!
HOW 'BOUT WE MOVE THE FROG INTO THE OTHER ROOM DURING DINNERTIME?
LOSIN' MY APPETITE OVER HERE!
BUT HIRAMATSU'S PART OF MY *FAMILY.*
SO YOU'LL MOVE HIM WHEN EVERYONE'S BACK, SEI?
WELL, THE OTHER KIDS ARE GONE, SO JUST FOR NOW, IT'S OKAY.
GOO
Asako, you SUCKER!
HELLOOO, HE'S A *FROG!*
RIBBIT
HE'S A MEMBER OF STAR KIDS HOME.

HEY...
ANSWER, DUMMY!
HEY, DON'T TOUCH HIM WHEN YOU'RE EATING, SEI.
UGHHH! STINKY STINKY STINKY!
PUT A LID ON IT, HARUO.
CHEET
CHEET
CHEET

*Shūkan Shōnen Magazine (weekly boys' magazine)

CHIAKI AND SHOSUKE MAKE A LOT OF NOISE TOO.
CUZ FROGS CROAK!
CUZ ...
BECAUSE THEY'RE AMPHIB-IANS?
BECAUSE THEY'RE VERTE-BRATES?
WHAT'S DIF-FERENT ABOUT THEM?
SO PEOPLE CAN'T LIVE WITH ANY-THING NOISY? THAT'S SILLY ...
ISN'T IT, HIRA-MATSU?
BONK
THUNK

YOU *ALWAYS* DO THAT, HARUO !!
BWONK
HEY!! WHAT THE—
STOP IT, RIGHT NOW!!
CUZ YER ALWAYS DOIN' STUPID STUFF, YA IDIOT!!
BWONK
HARUO !!
STOP IT NOW!!
DUMMY !!
WHAT?! WHAT'D YOU SAY ?!
YOU GET *VIOLENT* WHEN YOU'RE LOSING AN ARGU-MENT!
GAK
HIRA-MATSU'S PART OF THE FAMILY!

DON'T SAY "DITCH HIM" !!
YOU BETTER NOT SAY THAT!!
REEP
REEP
REEP
AND HERE'S THE FIRST PITCH!

*Jingle for a popular brand of Japanese-style Salisbury steak

*A private high school known for its baseball team

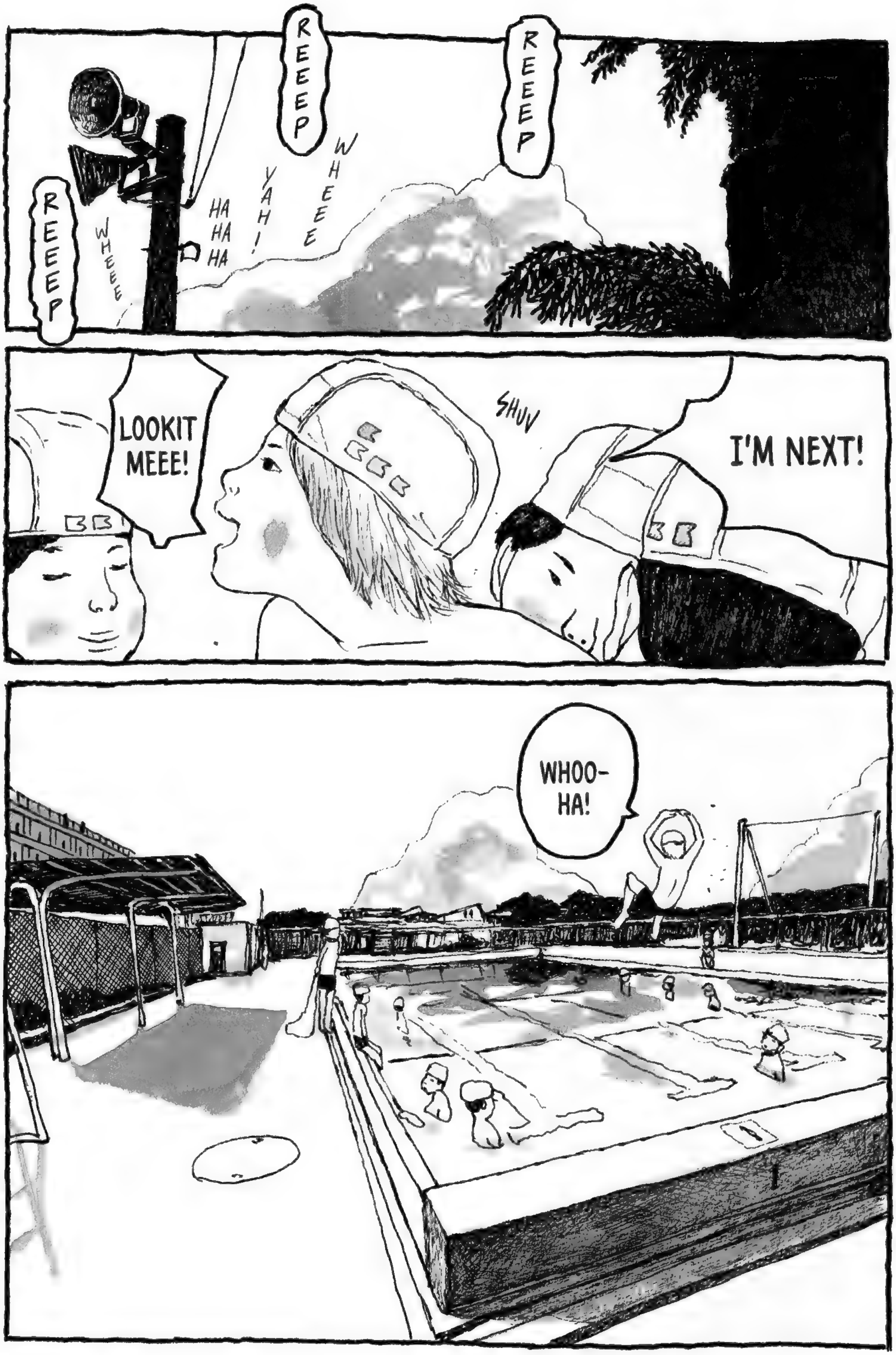
HRMMM.
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
HEY!
HARUO!
RIBBIT
YOU BETTER NOT BE TAKIN' A LEAK OUT THERE!
NAW, DON'T WORRY.
JUS' LETTING HIRAMATSU GO BACK TO HIS HOME!
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
?
READY, AIM...

FLY!
HARUO!!
HIRA-MATSU!!
TMP
NO!!
HIRA-MATSU!
TMP

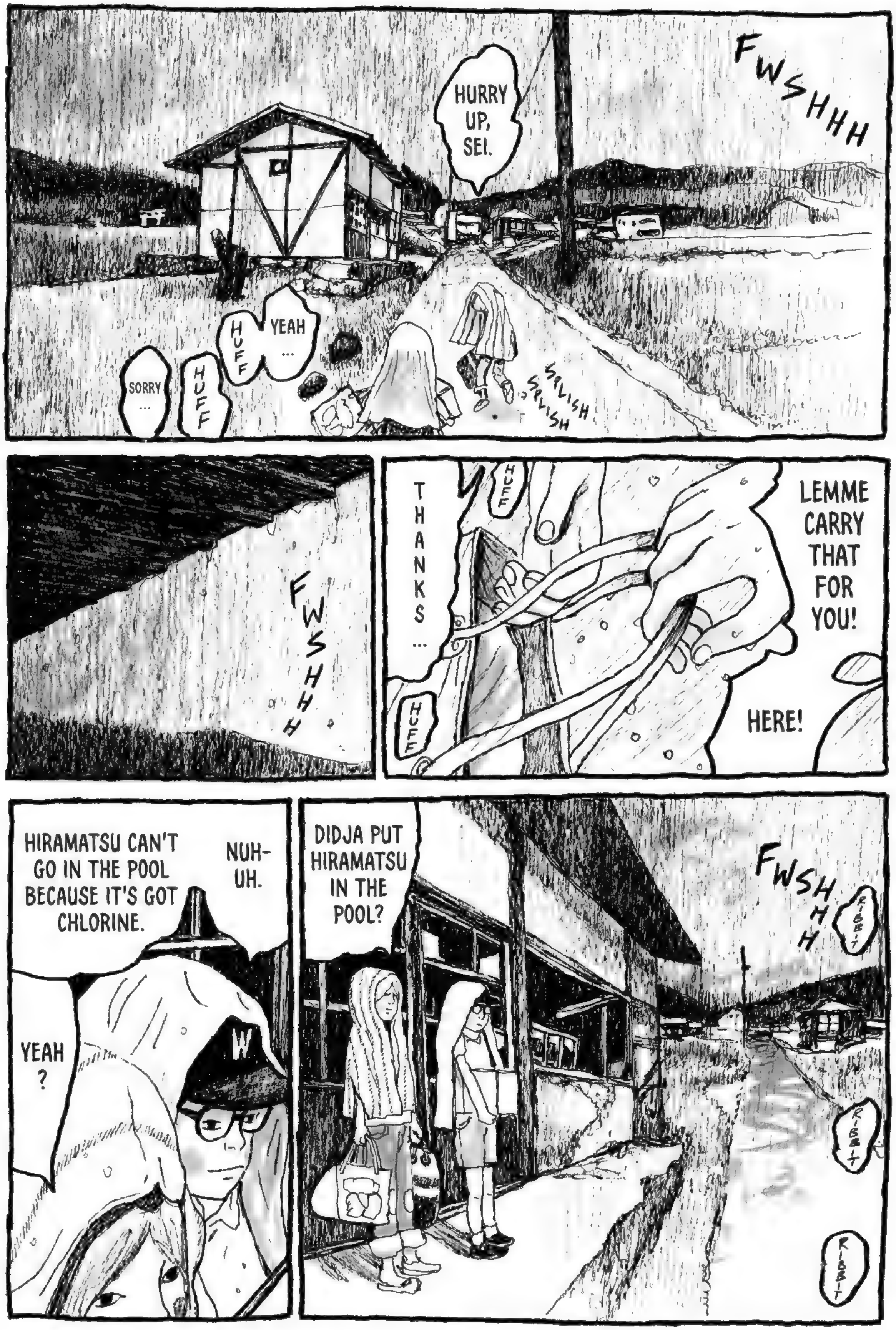
HIRA-MATSU!!
WHERE ARE YOU?!
UH-OH...
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE
HEY!
SKRUNCH
C'MON OUT OF THERE, BOYS.
YER GONNA SMASH THE RICE STALKS.
HIRA-MATSU!
HIRA-MATSU!
...
HIRA-MATSU, WHERE ARE YOU?
WHAT'S A *HIRA-MATSU* ANYWAY?
C'MON BUDDY, WHERE ARE YOU ?!
SPLURCH
SPLURCH

...
HIRAMATSU, HIRAMATSU ...
OH...
HEY. BUDDY. IT'S ME ...
SPLASH
SPLASH
COME BACK!!
THERE YOU ARE.
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE

THERE YOU ARE, HIRAMATSU.
CHEE CHEE CHEE
OH, HIRA-MATSU...
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE


REEEEP
WHEEEE
HA HA HA
YAH!
WHEEEE
REEEP
REEEP
LOOKIT MEEE!
SHUV
I'M NEXT!
WHOO-HA!

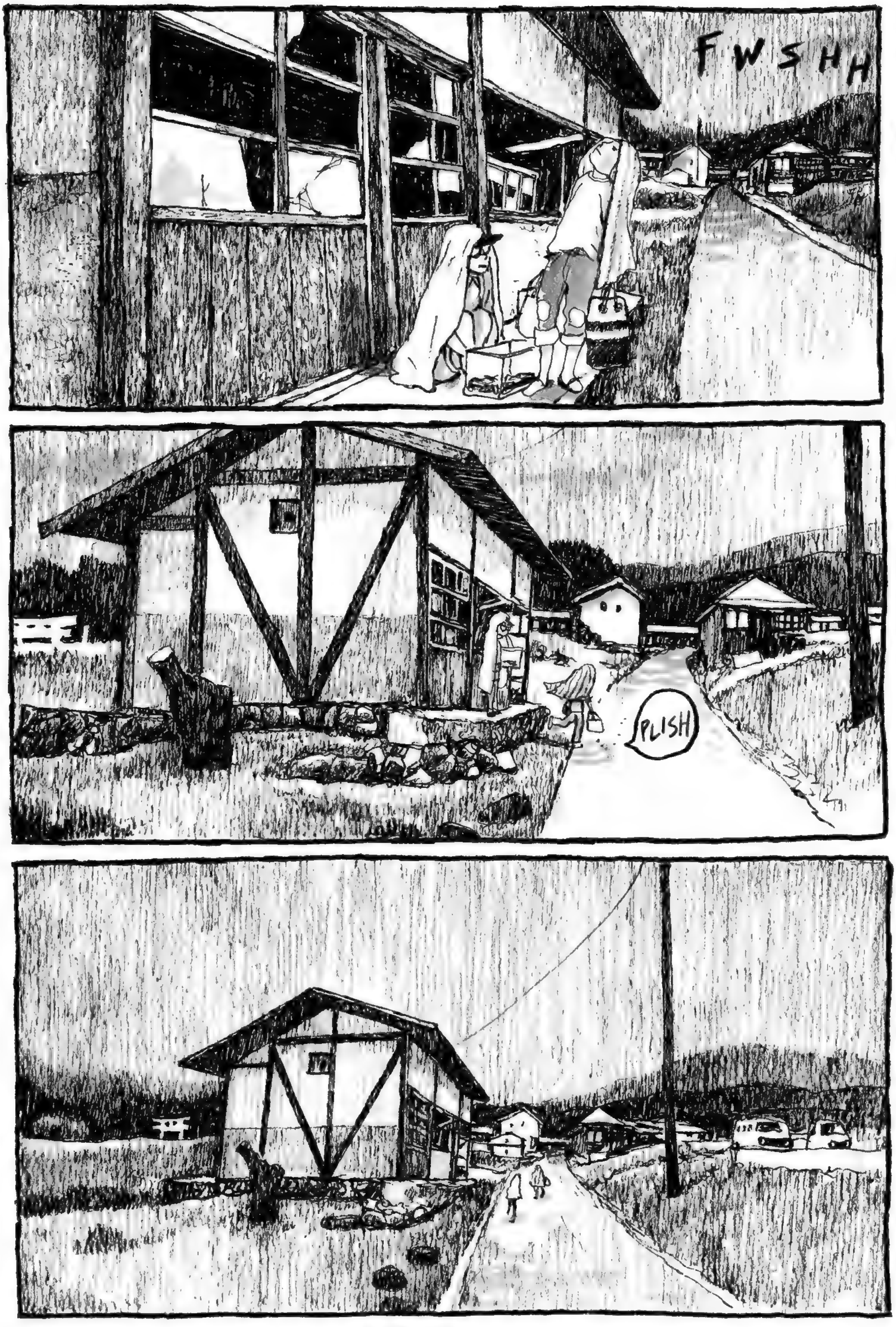
YAMASHITA
HEH HEH HEH.
SPLOSH
RMbL RMbL
HMM?
HA HA HA!
YAH!
HIRA-MATSU.
RMbL RMbL RMbL
OKAY, KIDS. OUTTA THE WATER.
GONNA RAIN.

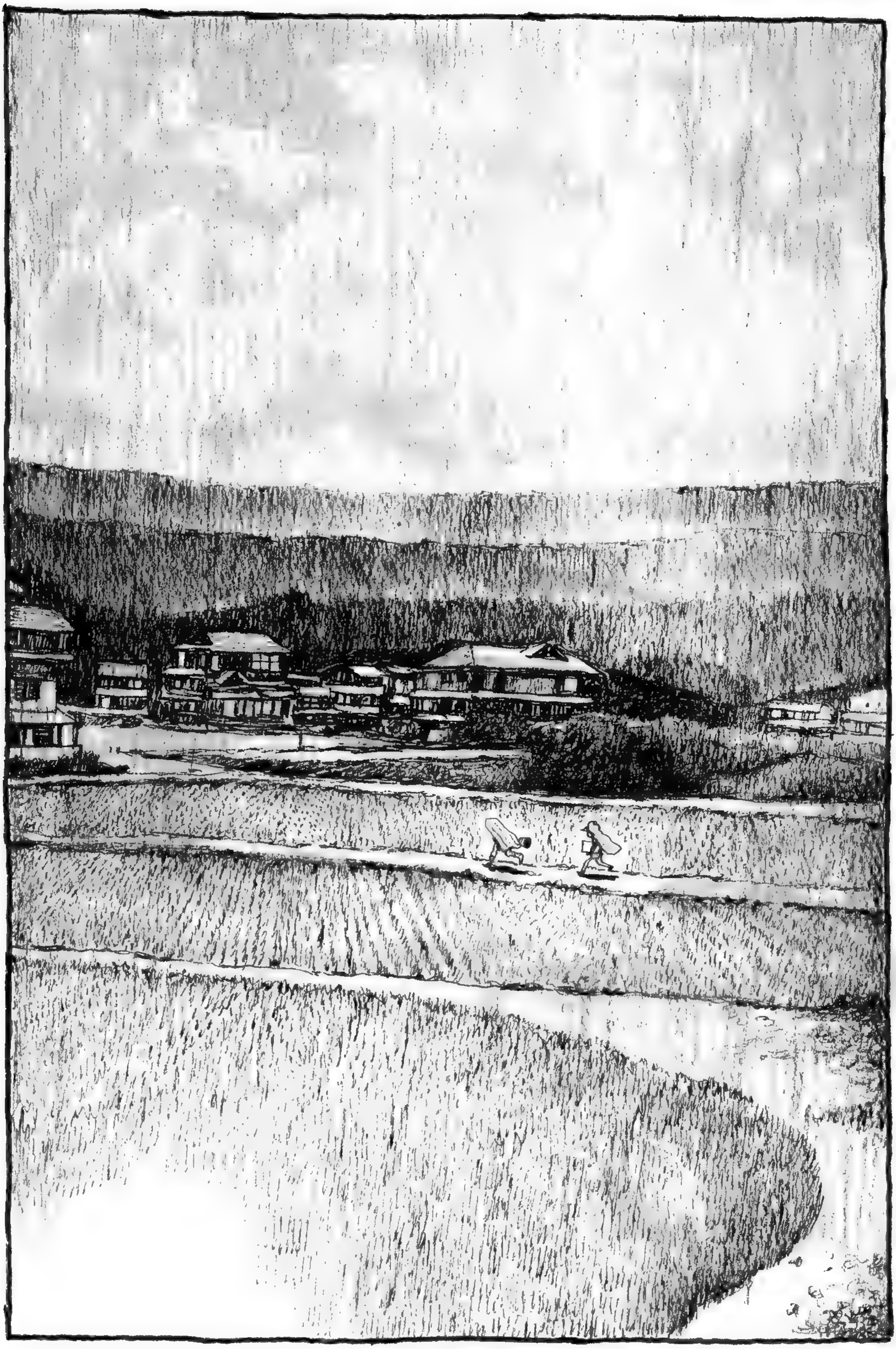

FWSHHHH
HURRY UP, SEI.
YEAH ...
HUFF
HUFF
SORRY ...
SHLISH SHLISH
FWSHHHH
LEMME CARRY THAT FOR YOU!
HUFF
THANKS ...
HUFF
HERE!
FWSHHHH
RIBBIT
DIDJA PUT HIRAMATSU IN THE POOL?
NUH-UH.
HIRAMATSU CAN'T GO IN THE POOL BECAUSE IT'S GOT CHLORINE.
YEAH ?
RIBBIT
RIBBIT

FWSHHHHH
RIBBIT
RIBBIT
RIBBIT
RIBBIT
RIBBIT
GROOOO.
GROOOO.
GROOOO.
GROOOO.
RIBBIT
RIBBIT

GROOOOO.
GROOOOO.
GROOOOO.
GROOOOO.
RIBBIT
RIBBIT
RIBBIT
TUNK
GO AHEAD, HIRA-MATSU...
SWKIP

RIBBIT
GO AHEAD, GO TO THEM.
FWSHH
RIBBIT
RIBBIT
SHWOP
BYE-BYE, HIRA-MATSU.
BYE-BYE.
SHWOP

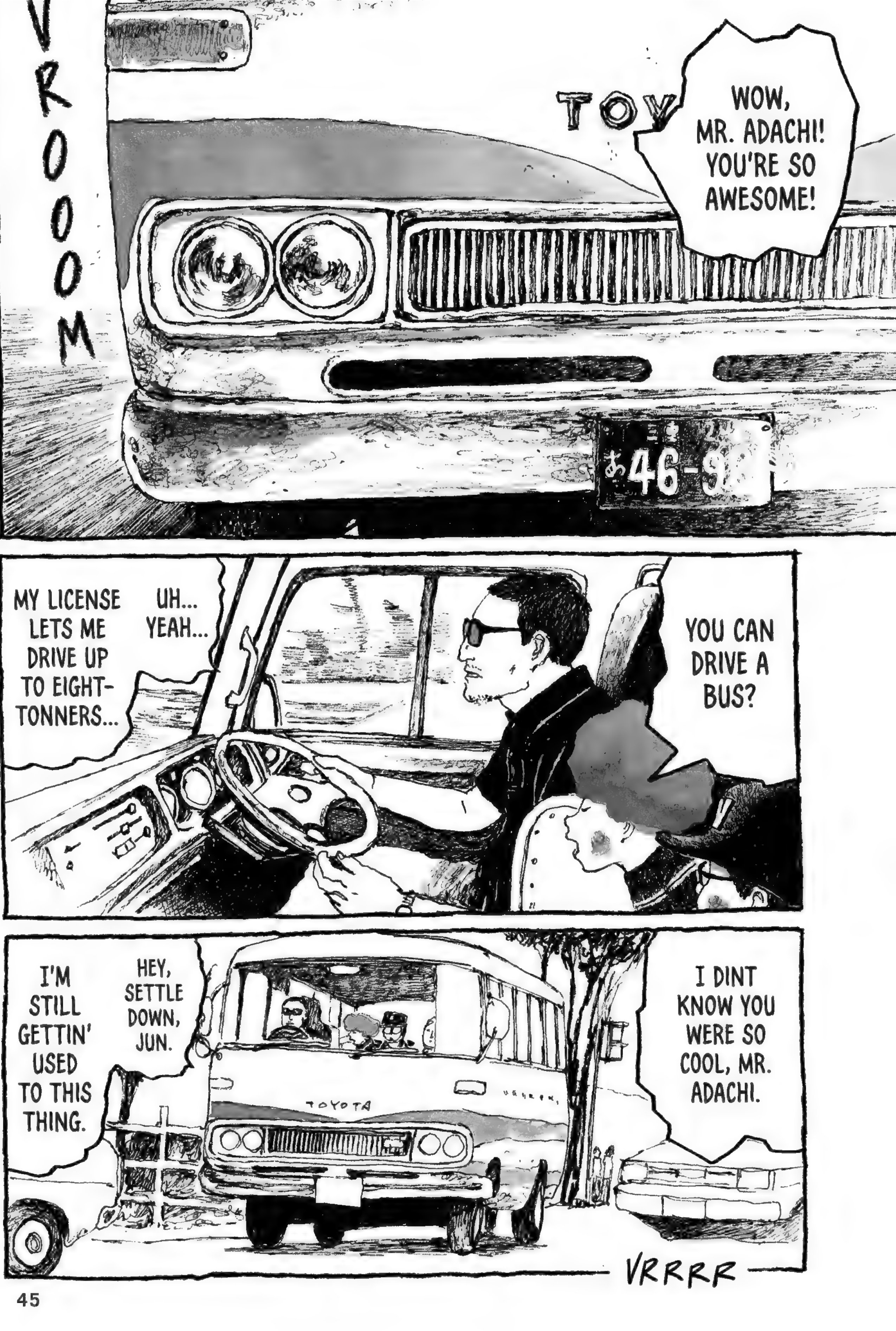

FWSHH
PLISH



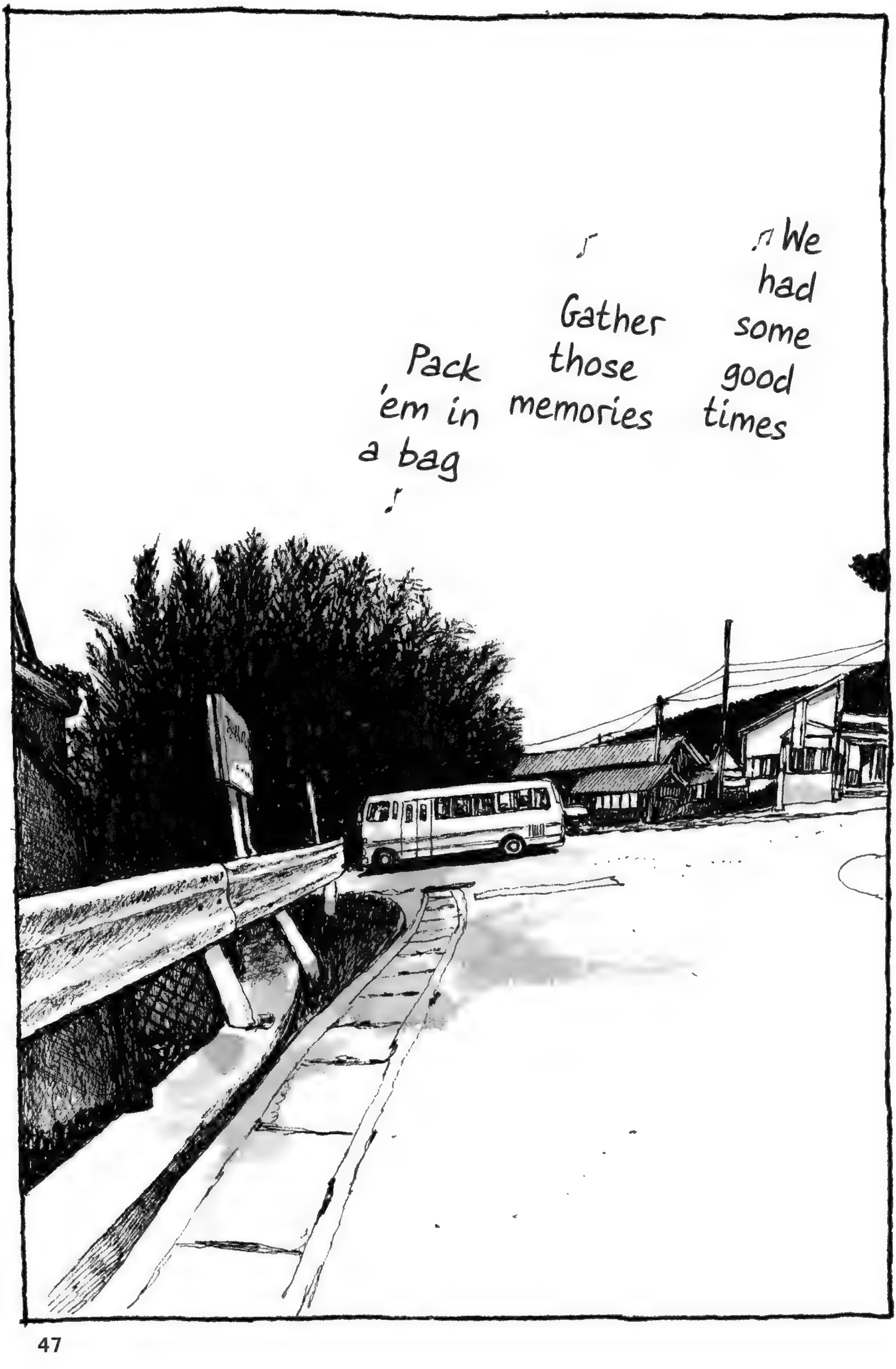
CHAPTER 32

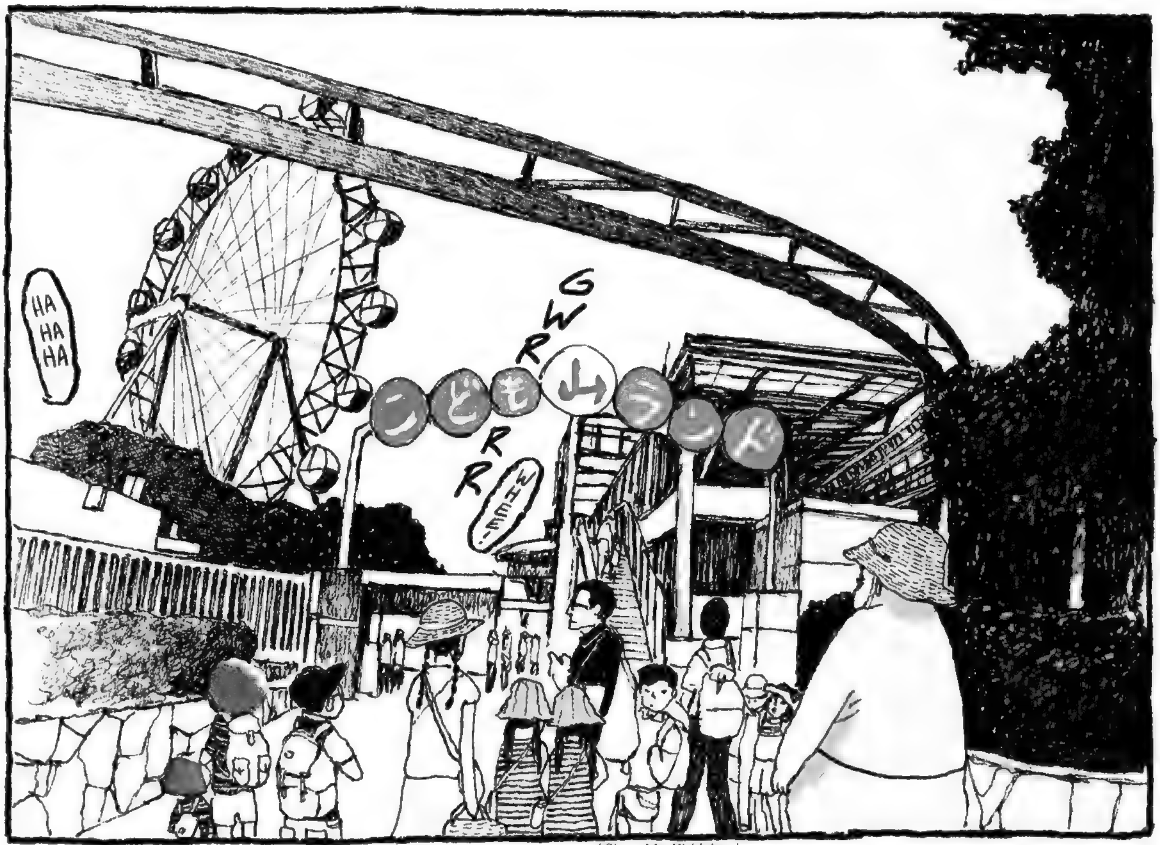
"I love amusement parks."

"When I grow up, I'm gonna live in one!"

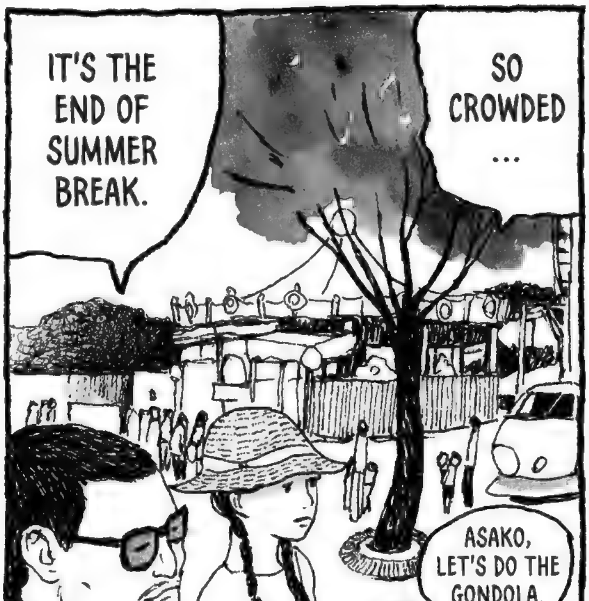

VROOOOM
TOY
WOW, MR. ADACHI! YOU'RE SO AWESOME!
あ46-9
YOU CAN DRIVE A BUS?
UH... YEAH...
MY LICENSE LETS ME DRIVE UP TO EIGHT-TONNERS...
I DINT KNOW YOU WERE SO COOL, MR. ADACHI.
HEY, SETTLE DOWN, JUN.
I'M STILL GETTIN' USED TO THIS THING.
TOYOTA
VRRRR

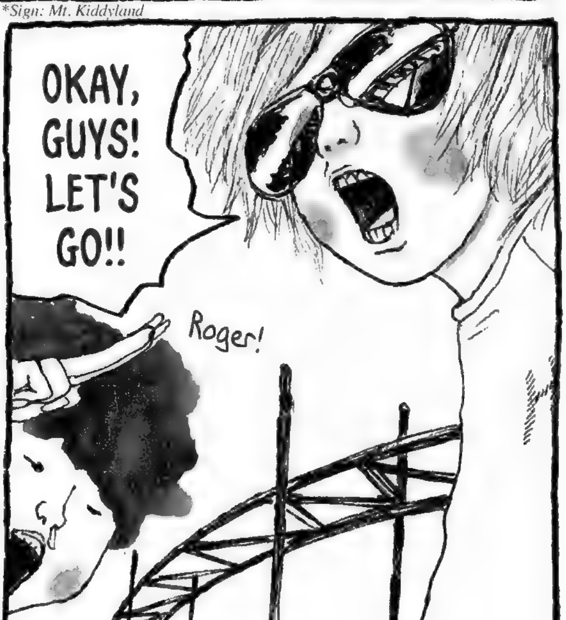
NO THANKS!
MY TURN TO SING!
ALL RIGHT !!
Got my back to you and I listen
MAKIN' ME SICK.
I roll over in bed and face the wall
this means
Guess
you're leaving after all


♫ We had some good times
♪ Gather those memories
Pack 'em in a bag ♪

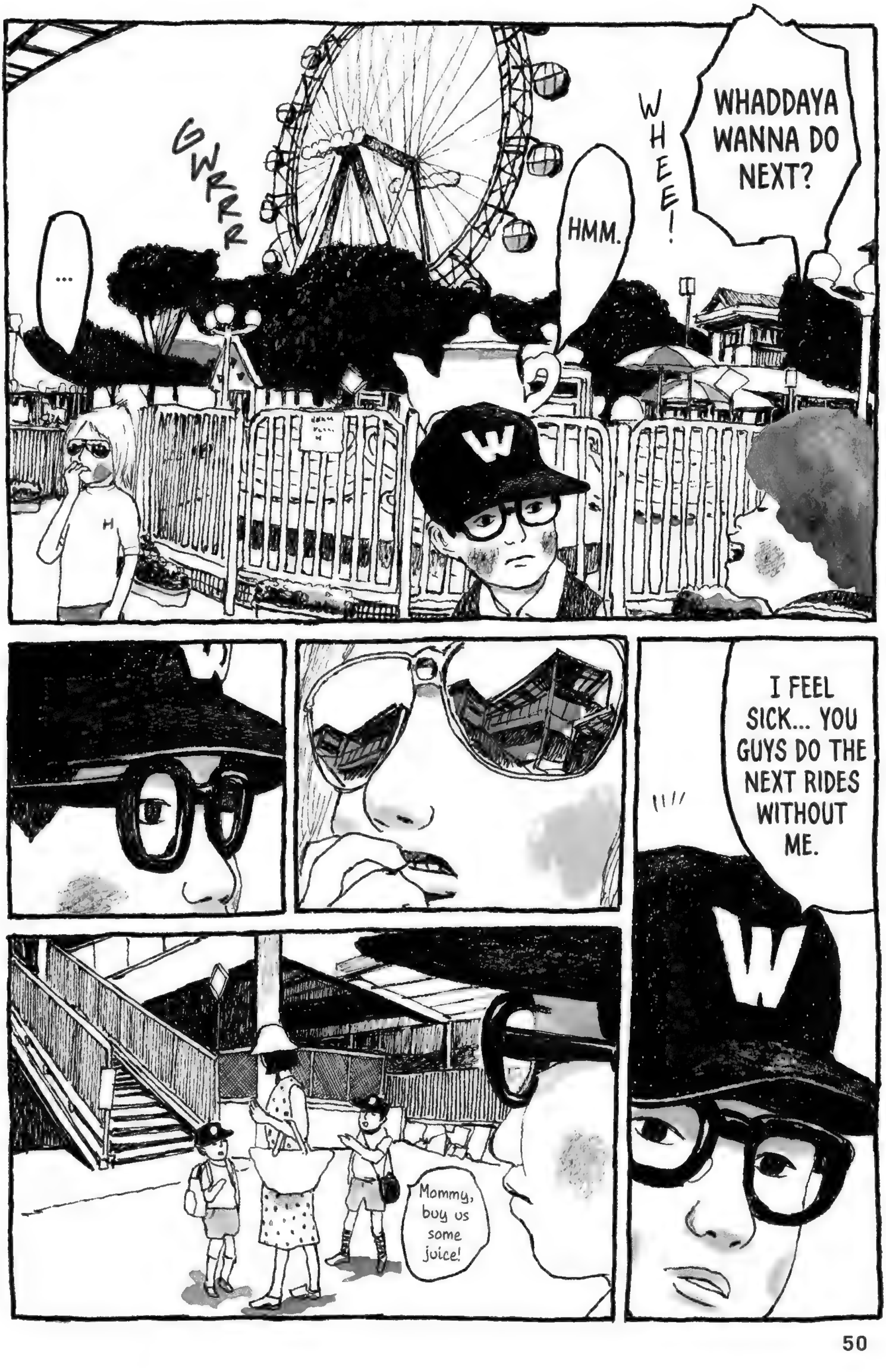


*Sign: Mt. Kiddyland

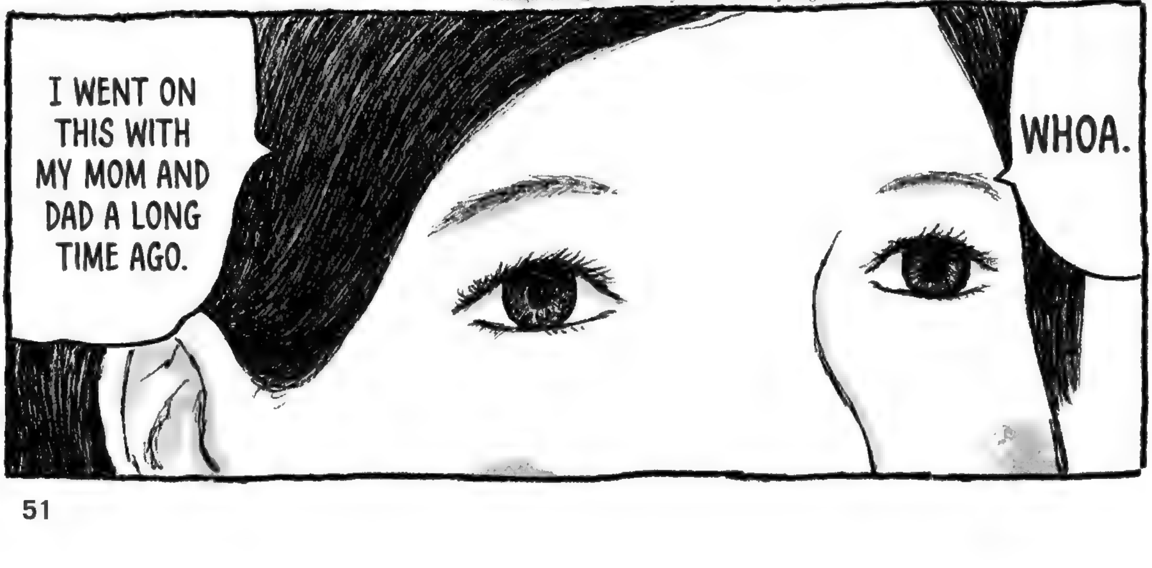


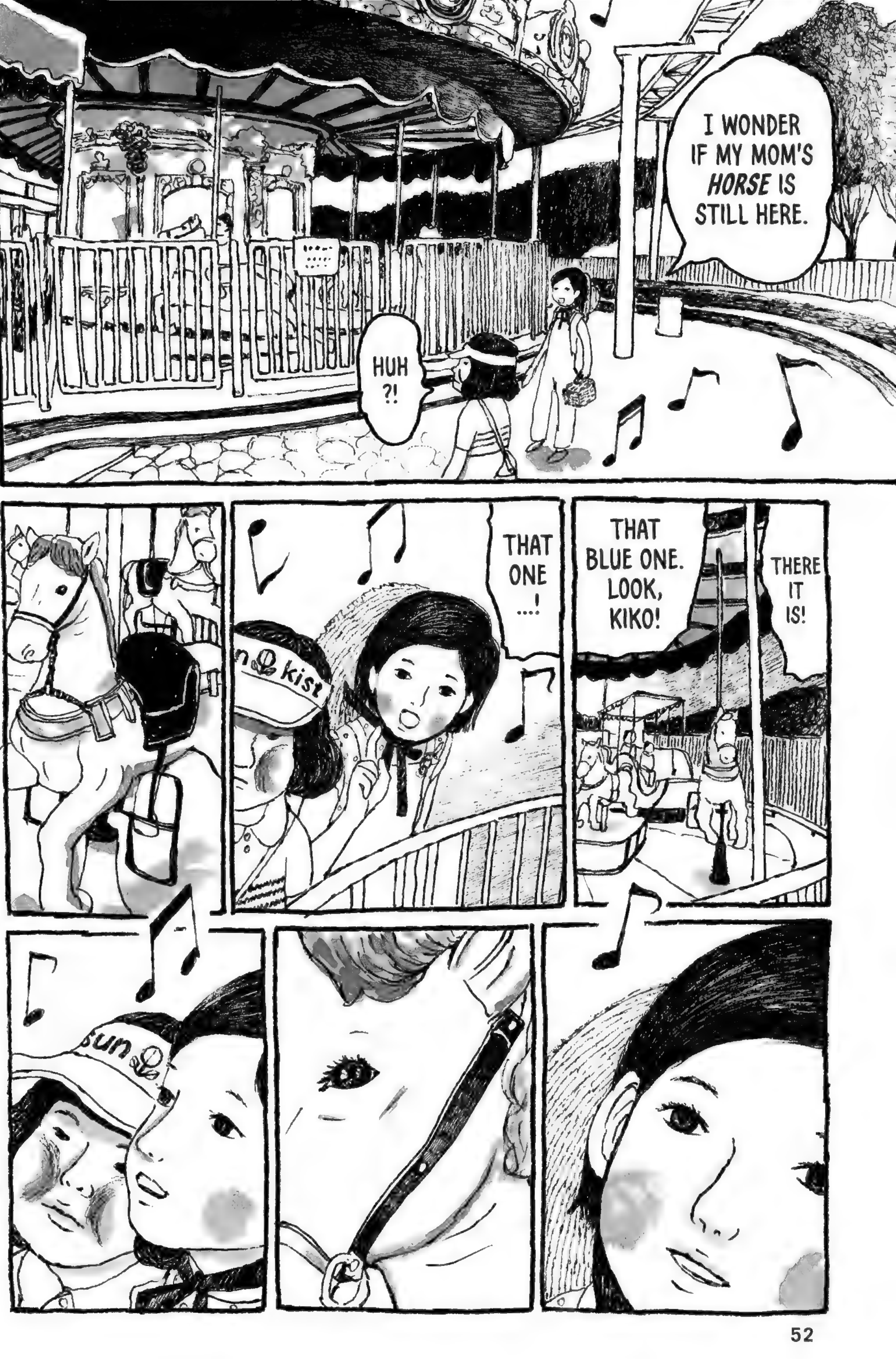


URP... I'M GETTIN' DIZZY...
HA HA HA HA
WHEE!
WHEE!
HA HA HA
AHH, WHAT A GREAT DAY.
gawp
THAT'S TOO MUCH, TARO. YOU'RE GONNA *BARF*...
SWAIL. SWAIL.
THIS'S SLOWER THAN A SNAIL...
VHRR
WHEE!
GWRRR
WEATHER'S NICE.
HA HA HA HA


WHADDAYA WANNA DO NEXT?
WHEE!
HMM.
GWRRR
...
I FEEL SICK... YOU GUYS DO THE NEXT RIDES WITHOUT ME.
Mommy, buy us some juice!

*Manga serialized in *Weekly Shōnen Sunday* magazine 1971-1974 (a play on the English "let's go")




I WONDER IF MY MOM'S *HORSE* IS STILL HERE.
HUH ?!
THAT ONE ...!
THAT BLUE ONE. LOOK, KIKO!
THERE IT IS!
sun kist
sun

YEAH, ME TOO...
HEY...
WHO CARES.
I'M GOIN'.
HMPH.
HEY *BABY*, WANNA GO FOR A *RIDE*?
BONK
HA HA HA
WHEE!
HA HA HA!
I SURE DO!
GWRRR
ZZZZ ...
ZZZ...
HA HA HA
HA HA HA

WOW.
THE PEOPLE LOOK TINY...
THE PEOPLE LOOK TINY...
LIKE WE BECAME GIANTS...
LIKE WE'RE GIANTS...
WHEE!
HA HA HA HA
GWRRR
DA- DOOM.
DA- DOOM.
WHOOSH.
TEE HEE HEE.
TEE HEE HEE.

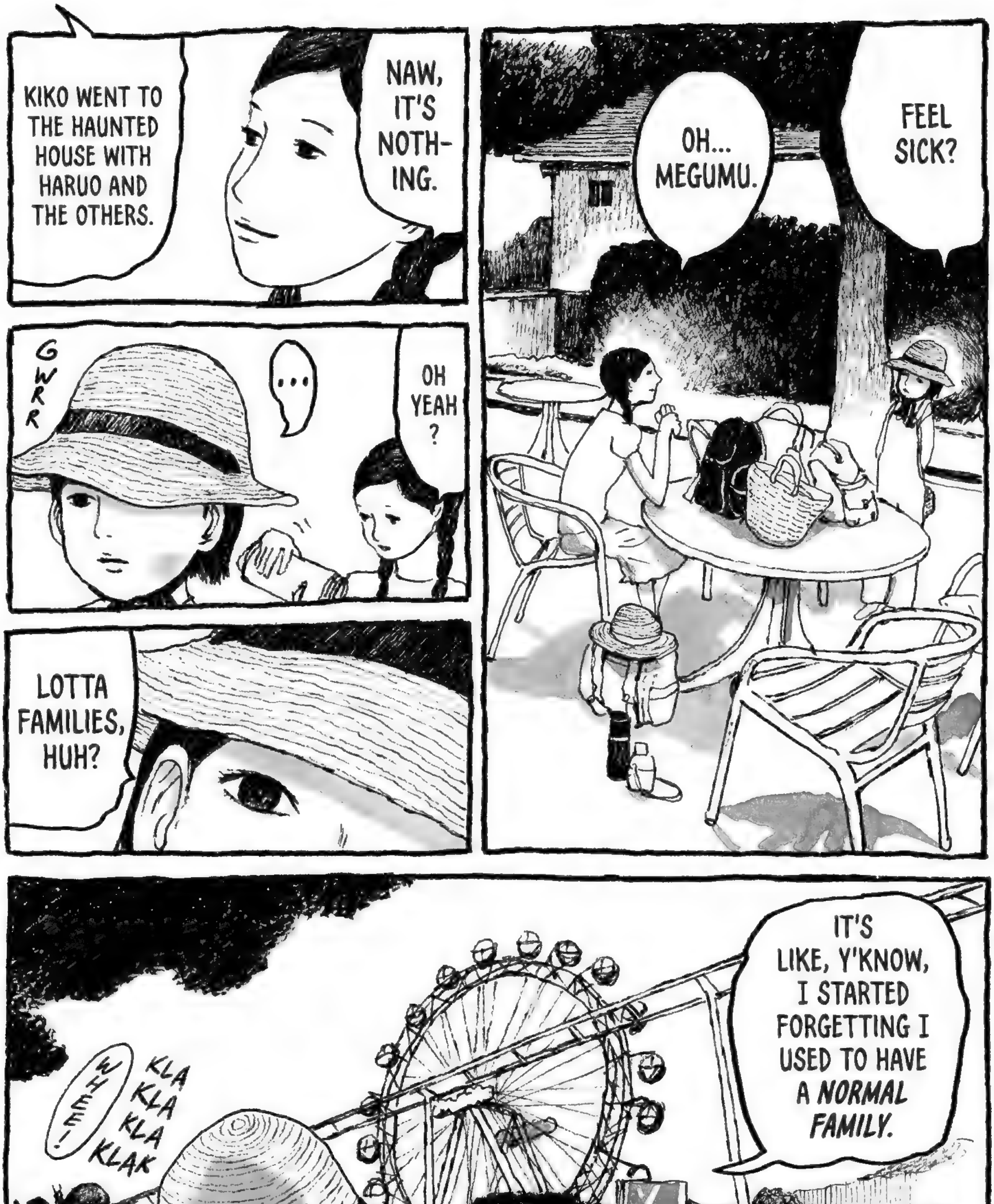
WOW! LOOK, THEY ALL GOT FLAGS!
JUS' LIKE REAL *KIDDIE MEALS.*
ONLY ONE EACH, JUN. GOT IT?
HOW COME I GOTTA GIVE YOU MINE? NO WAY!
HEY, KOJI, GIMME THAT ONE!
YA THINK MISS MITSUKO STUCK THE FLAGS IN?
OH, *GOOD GRIEF...*
JUST SIT DOWN, JUN. I'LL GIVE YOU MINE LATER.
I SAID *NO,* SO LEAVE ME ALONE!
C'MON, I'LL TRADE YOU MY JAPAN FLAG FOR THE STAR ONE.

EYES OVER HERE, KIDS!
...
OKAY, EVERY-ONE READY?
LET'S EAT!
TIME TO EAT!
OKAY !!

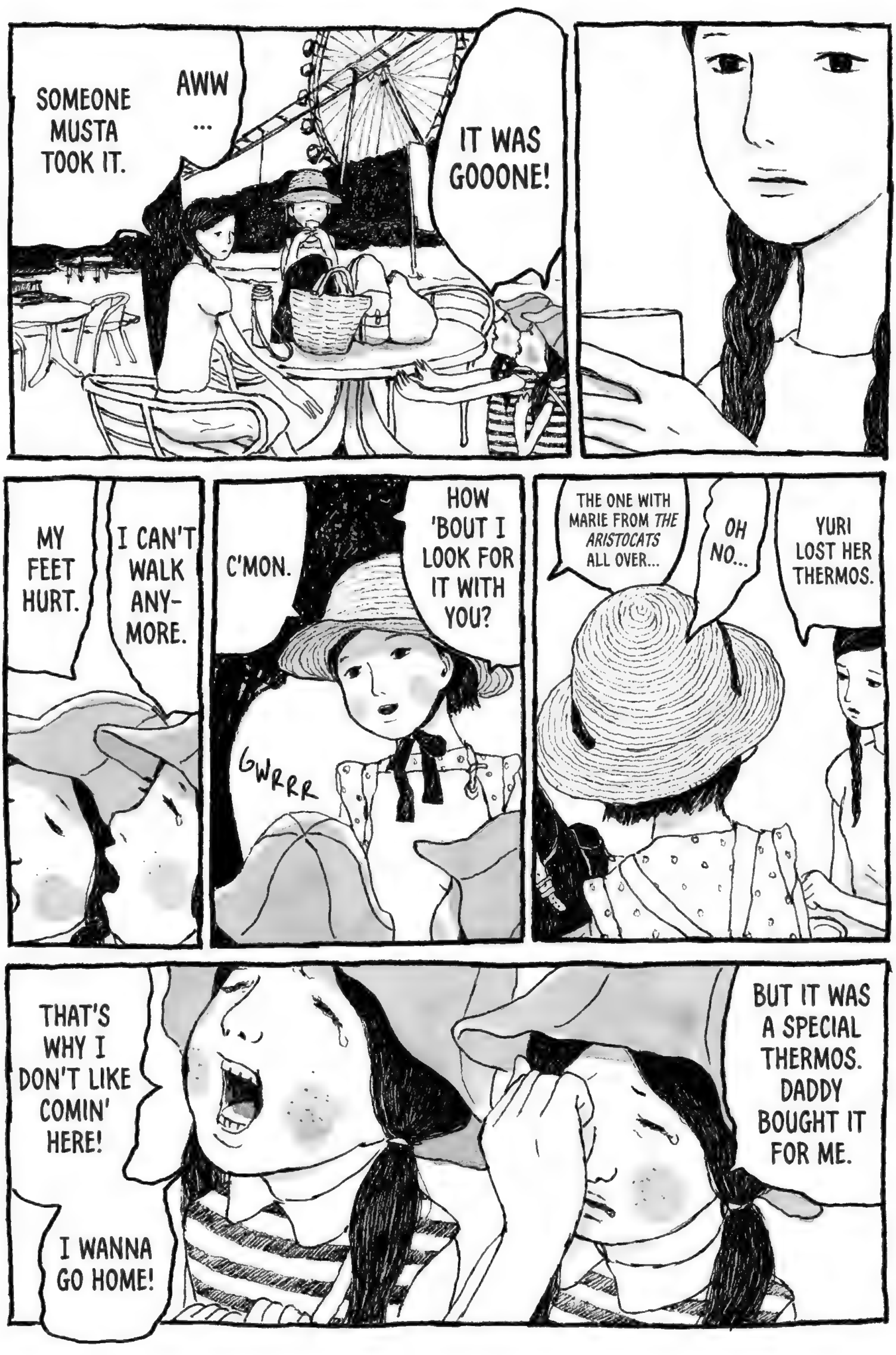
WHAAA? YOU LOST IT? WHERE?
GW RRR
Me!
Me next!
Yeah!
W-WE DON' KNOW!
WE WENT BACK AND LOOKED ALL OVER BUT WE COULDN'T FIND IT!
OKAY, YA BETTER GO TO THE LOST AND FOUND.
GO *STRAIGHT* THERE.
WE DON'T WANNA GO *ALONE*.
COME WITH US, ASAKO, PLEEEEZ.
I WOULD...
BUT I HAVE TO WATCH EVERYONE'S STUFF.

STAY TOGETHER, OKAY?
JUST HOLD HANDS AND GO.
GRINK
SIGH
...
CREAK
THE TABLE TOO.
REMINDS ME OF THOSE TIMES.
THIS CHAIR ...
REMINDS ME OF WHEN WE CAME HERE BEFORE.
GR-...
GRR-ZZ-K

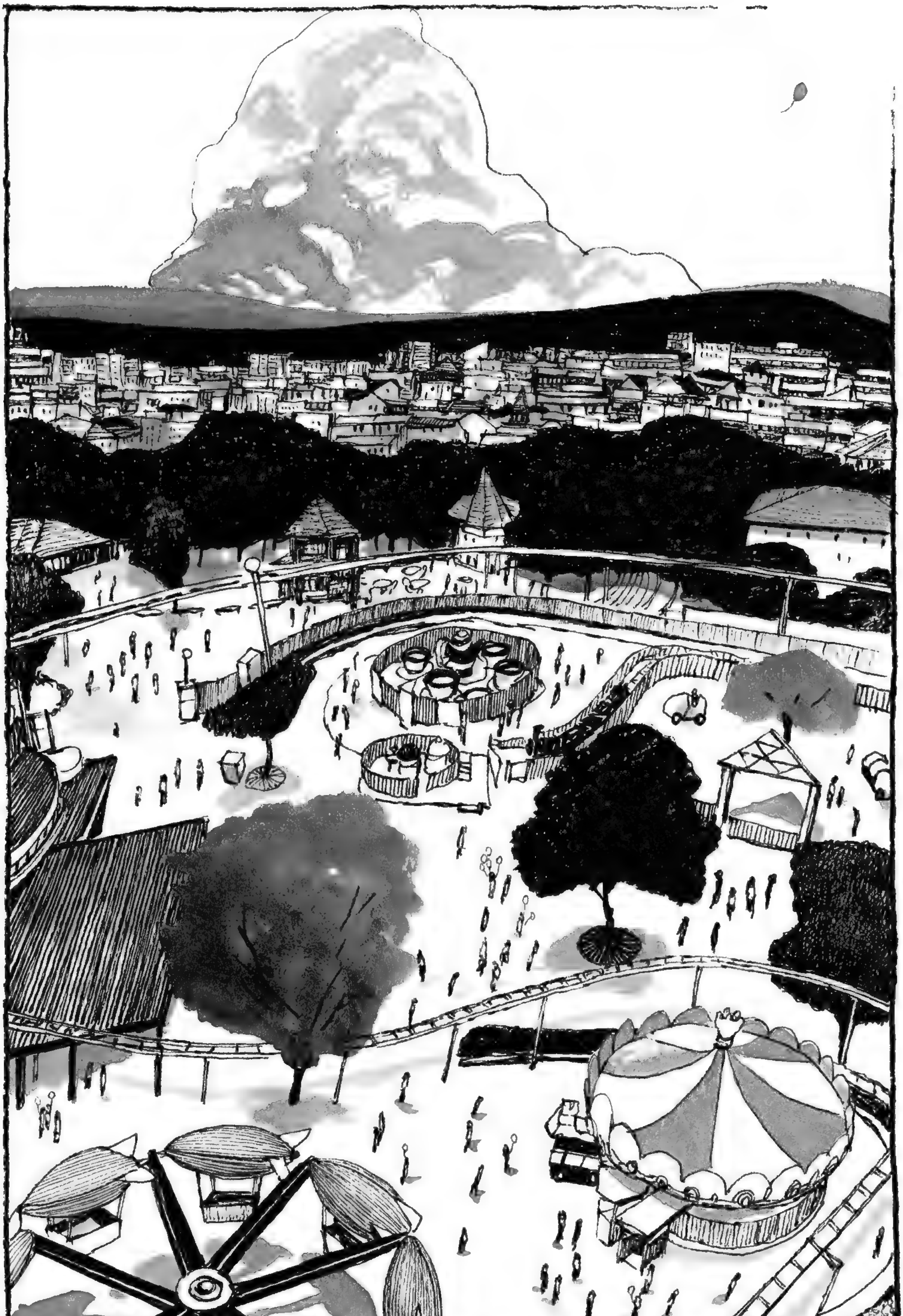
THIS CHAIR'S WOBBLY.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, ASAKO?
MOM WAS STILL NICE.
MOMMY, OPEN IT.
KENJI WAS STILL A TODDLER.
SLURP
YOU'LL UPSET YOUR STOMACH AGAIN IF YOU DRINK TOO FAST.
DADDY WASN'T DRINKING YET.
HOW 'BOUT I SWITCH CHAIRS WITH YOU?
THIS PLACE STAYS THE SAME, BUT THE PEOPLE KEEP CHANGING.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, ASAKO?

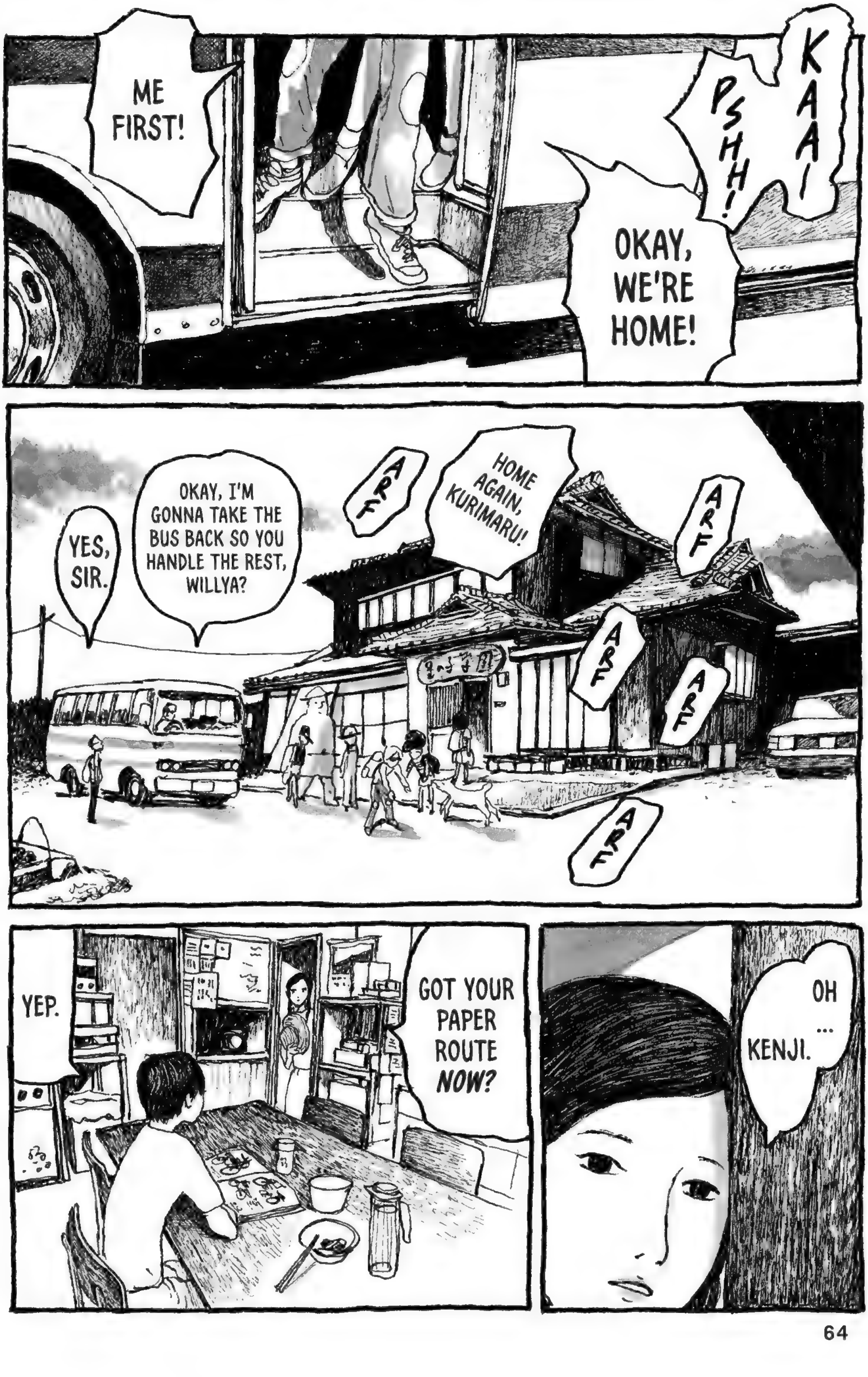


*Sign: Soft Serve


SOMEONE MUSTA TOOK IT.
AWW ...
IT WAS GOOONE!
MY FEET HURT.
I CAN'T WALK ANY-MORE.
C'MON.
HOW 'BOUT I LOOK FOR IT WITH YOU?
GWRRR
THE ONE WITH MARIE FROM THE ARISTOCATS ALL OVER...
OH NO...
YURI LOST HER THERMOS.
THAT'S WHY I DON'T LIKE COMIN' HERE!
I WANNA GO HOME!
BUT IT WAS A SPECIAL THERMOS. DADDY BOUGHT IT FOR ME.

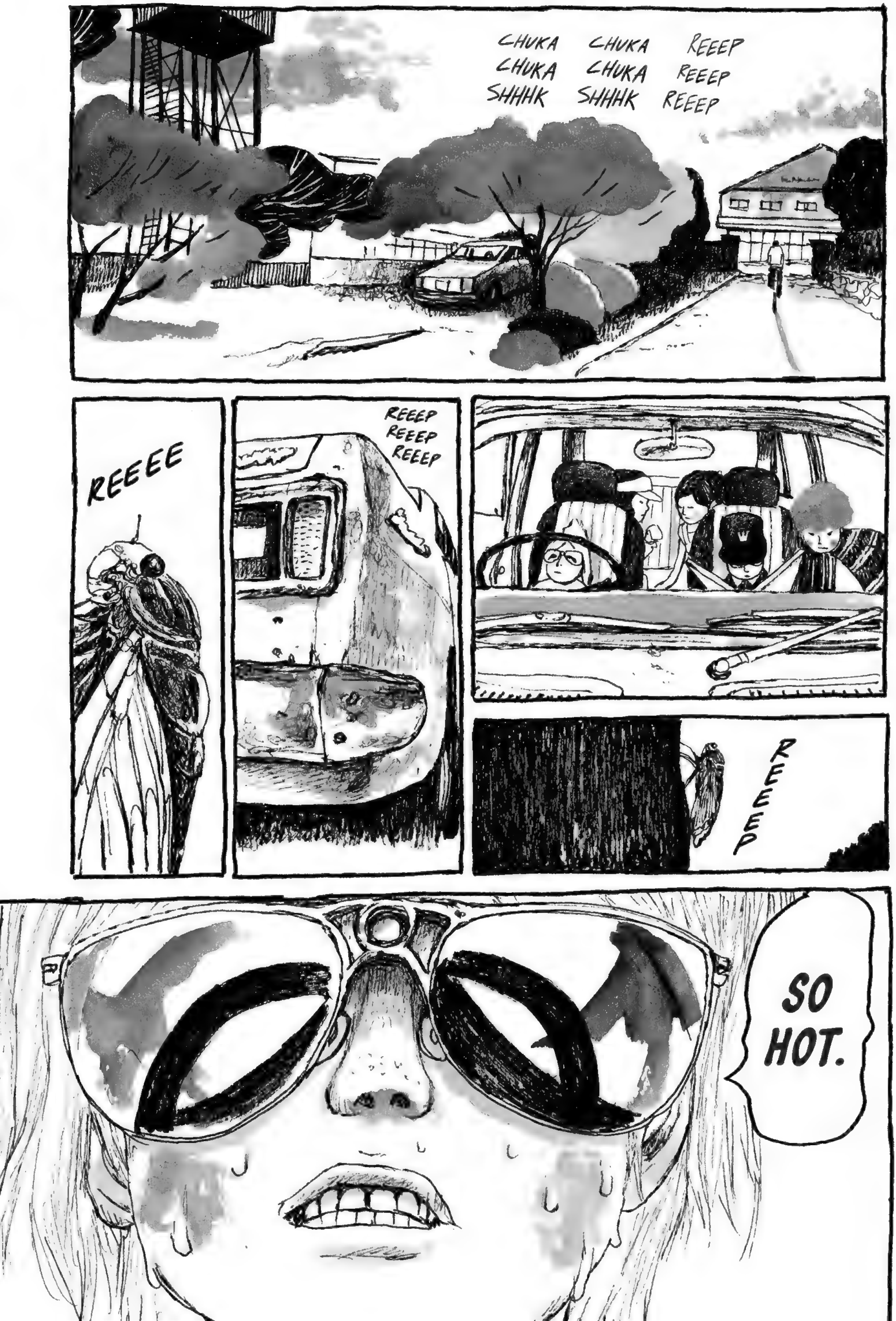
YOU TWO BETTER NOT SAY THAT IN FRONT OF MR. ADACHI.
HA HA HA
HEE HEE HEE
NOT AFTER HE RENTED A BUS AND BROUGHT US ALL THE WAY HERE.
GWRRR
WHEE!
DON'T LET GO OF MY HAND, Y'HEAR?
OKAY.
HEE HEE HEE
I'LL BUY YOU ANOTHER ONE JUST LIKE IT.
WHEE!
HA HA HA
SEE? SO STOP YOUR CRYIN'.
HA HA HA
WAH!
MISS MITSUKO EVEN GOT UP EARLY TO MAKE LUNCH FOR US, RIGHT?
GWRRR
HA HA HA




KAAAI
PSHHH!
OKAY, WE'RE HOME!
ME FIRST!
HOME AGAIN, KURIMARU!
ARF
ARF
OKAY, I'M GONNA TAKE THE BUS BACK SO YOU HANDLE THE REST, WILLYA?
YES, SIR.
ARF
ARF
ARF
ARF
GOT YOUR PAPER ROUTE *NOW?*
YEP.
OH ... KENJI.

*Shirt: Asahi Jr. High

HEY, WHATCHA ALL DOIN' IN THERE?
SQEEE...
...
HAVE A GOOD TIME AT KIDDY-LAND?
YEAH... RIGHT.
UH... YEAH, PRETTY GOOD.
CROWDED WITH ALL THOSE *FAMILIES.*


CHUKA CHUKA REEEP
CHUKA CHUKA REEEP
SHHHK SHHHK REEEP
REEEE
REEEP
REEEP
REEEP
REEEP
SO HOT.

"WELCOME BACK, DARLING." ♡
WHY SO LATE, *DAD?!* BET YOU WERE AT A STRIP CLUB!
Kiko's freakin' me out.
DING DONG♫
"HOME AGAIN, HONEY!"
NO, JUS' WORKING LATE.
"ARE YOU HUNGRY, DEAR? OR SHOULD I FILL YOUR BATH?"
"WELL... HOW 'BOUT SOME DINNER?"

NOT ON YOUR LIFE.
...
"WHY CAN'T YOU BE MORE LIKE YOUR LITTLE BROTHER SEI?!"
"WHAT?! WE CAN'T HAVE THAT."
"I'M AFRAID HARUO SKIPPED SCHOOL TODAY, DARLING."
SHUT UP!
"THAT'S NO WAY TO SPEAK TO YOUR *PARENTS*."
"A MILLION YEN!"
"FORK OVER SOME CASH, DAD!"
Uhh
MISS MITSUKO, WOULD YOU TASTE THIS FOR ME?
WHICH ONE?
MISSING SOMETHING, RIGHT?
goo
HMM.

WHOOPS! FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT!
MAYBE SWEET RICE WINE?
AHHHHH.
gnah
ARF
LOOK! TARO'S EATING SAND!
IT'S NOT TARO! IT'S "GRAND-PA"!
ARF
ARF

SURE SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE HAVING A GOOD TIME.
YEAH.
AH HA HA HA
ARF
IT'S NOT *SAND,* IT'S "CUSTARD"!
EATIN' SAND MESSES UP YOUR *APPENDIX!*
ARF
EWWW! A MOUTH FULLA SAND!!
WHEE
...
HEE HEE HEE
GRANDPA ATE A FLOWER!
UHH. UHH.
ARF
ARF
"EAT UP, THERE'S PLENTY MORE ♡."
"HONEY, YOU'VE OUTDONE YOURSELF TODAY!"
"OH, *MOUTH-WATERING!*"
ARF
ARF

NO WAY.
"MAY I HAVE MEGU-MU'S HAND?"
"SIR."
I'M S'POSED TO BE MEGUMU'S FIANCÉ!
KOJI, WHAT WERE YOU AGAIN?
BWA HA HA
CHUKA CHUKA CHUKA CHUKA SHHHK SHHHK
MWA HA HA HA HA!
WHY NOT? I'M THE FIANCÉ!
YEAH!
TIME TO EAT!
I AIN'T A PIG!
MWA HA HA HA
WE AIN'T GONNA GIVE MEGUMU TO A PIG!
OH, EVERYTHING TASTES BETTER WITH FAMILY!
MUNCH MUNCH GULP GULP.
BE SURE TO CHEW ALL YOUR FOOD.

*Japanese beef famous for its juicy texture

DAD, BUY ME A RADIO! ONE WITH A CASSETTE PLAYER!
ARF
HOW 'BOUT BIG BROTHER BUYS IT WITH MONEY FROM HIS JOB?
ARF
BUY A NEW THERMOS FOR YURI.
ARF
SIR, I *SWEAR* I'LL MAKE MEGUMU HAPPY FOREVER.
SHUT UP, YOU *PIG!*
MWA HA HA HA
ARF
THERE'S TOO MANY MOSQUITOS HERE. I'M GETTIN' EATEN ALIVE!
ARF

ALL RIGHT!
YAY!
DINNER'S READY!
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
AGAIN? *GOOD GRIEF!*
STEWED STUFF TODAY! SMELLS SO GOOD!
ARF
YOU'RE *COVERED* IN DIRT!
ARF
Y'ALL BE SURE TO WASH YOUR HANDS.
星の子学園
ARF
I'M STARVING!
ARF

CHAPTER 33

"Horny-Ken's horny!"

"Horny corny thorny!"

HUH?
CHEET
CHEET
CHEET

CHEET
CHEET
HEY, EVERYTHING'S GONE...
WHAT HAPPENED?
CHEET
TEE HEE HEE
!
...
CHEET

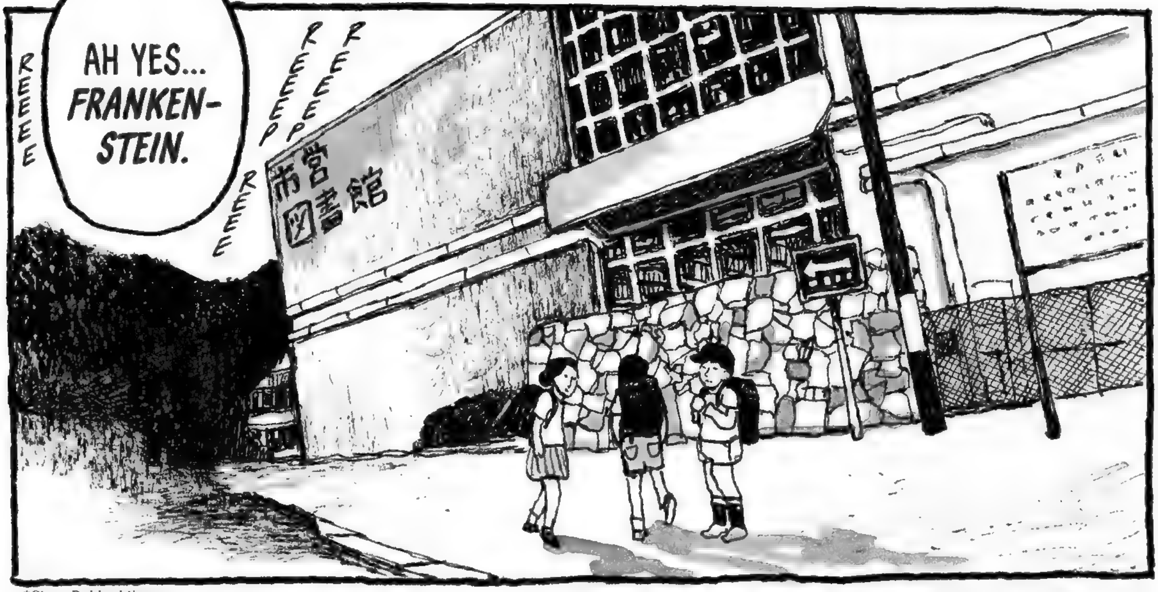
KREE
YOU KIDS FINISH DINNER?
DON'T GET YER HOPES UP. IT'S FRITTERS AGAIN!
WE DON'T SEE YOU IN THE SUNNY MUCH, TSUTOMU...
CHEET
CHEET
OKAY, BOYS, LET'S GO!!
ROGER, SIR!!
CHEET
ENEMY, DEAD AHEAD!!
VRRR!!! ZOOM!! VRRR!!
HEY, WHERE'D THE PORNO MAGS GO?
...
CHEET
CHEET

THE LITTLE KIDS USE THE SUNNY!
YER DAMN RIGHT I THREW AWAY THOSE DIRTY SKIN MAGS!!
THAT'S MY PRIVATE PROPERTY!
YOU JERK! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, THROWIN' STUFF OUT?!
NOW I GET IT. SO THAT'S WHY.
COMIN'.
YOU SHOPLIFTED 'EM, DIDN'T YOU?!
OH... TSUTOMU. HAVE SOME DINNER.
WHERE THE HELL YOU GET 'EM ANYWAY?!
HO HO HO.
YOU COULDA TOLD ME BEFORE YOU THREW 'EM OUT!

YOU REALLY NOT GOING?
KENJI, I THINK YOUR CAREER PATH FIELD TRIP NEXT WEEK IS MORE IMPORTANT.
AW, MAN, HE THREW 'EM AWAY ...
COULD WE PLEASE NOT TALK ABOUT THE SKIN MAGS?
I DIDN'T SHOPLIFT 'EM!
CAN'T YOU JUS' GET SOMEONE TO COVER YOUR ROUTE FOR A DAY?
YOU'RE NOT "LOW CLASS"!
GOTTA DELIVER THE EVENING EDITION ANYWAYS.
A LOW-CLASS FOSTER KID LIKE ME? NO WAY...
WHERE D'YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?! EAT YOUR DINNER!
WHY BOTHER?!
RATTLE SLIDE
SLAM
WORKIN' FOR A LIVIN' DON'T COUNT AS A CAREER PATH?!
QUIT PICKIN' FIGHTS.

...
TIME TO EAT!
JUST IGNORE HIM.
GROW UP!!
HE WON'T EAT DINNER 'CAUSE HIS PORNO MAGS GOT TOSSED OUT?!

TIME TO EAT!
AH HA HA HA.
BATH TIME, EVERYONE. YOUNGEST FIRST!
UH-OH. CHIAKI *POOPED.*
AH HA HA HA.
TSK.



*Sign: Public Library

*Sign: Suntory Whiskey, Liquor, Super Nikka

Drinks in the after-noon go down like water
WHOA, WHAT'S GOIN' ON THERE?
THAT'S KENJI'S DAD.
KENJI? OH, FROM STAR KIDS HOME.
SCUFF...
HEY, I SAID NO MORE.
HEY...
WHA...
UM... PARDON ME... MR. ITO...

HOME AGAIN.
RATTLE
♪
...
NOTHIN'.
WELL, OKAY.
WHAT'S UP?
HMM? PROBABLY OUT DELIVERING THE EVENING EDITION.
WHERE'S KENJI?
CAW
HEY, *YOU.*
Y'OLD FART..

HMM?
HEY, KENJI!
WHAT THE HELL D'YA THINK YOU'RE DOIN' HERE?
WE WERE JUST TALKIN' 'BOUT OLD TIMES WITH YER DAD.
HE SAID HE WAS GONNA *FILL IN* FOR YOU ON YOUR PAPER ROUTE NEXT WEEK.
WHA?
FILL IN FOR ME?
G'WAN, KENJI, ENJOY YOURSELF!
ON THAT CAREER PATH FIELD TRIP!

SZZZZ
SZZZZ
HEY, KENJI!
QUIT SULKING AND TELL ME WHAT I'M S'POSED TO DO!
SZZZZ
...
START WITH THE YAMADAS' HOUSE, THAT ONE WITH THE WHITE WALL.
YES, SIR!
SZZZ
COMIN' BACK TO ME, JUS' LIKE IT WAS YESTERDAY.
FWAP
KUNK
HO!
NEVER KEPT A JOB MORE THAN SIX MONTHS...
tsk...
BE CAREFUL OF THE TAKAGIS' DOG, UP NEXT.
YES, SIR!

ARF
THUNK
YEAH... S'NICE TO WORK UP A SWEAT ONCE IN A WHILE!
ARF
ARF
ARF
WATCH AND LEARN, LOSER.
MOST FOLKS DO IT EVERY DAY, AND ONLY TAKE A BREAK ONCE IN A WHILE.
...
YEAH, SURE.
MAYBE S'TIME FOR ME TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF!
RUNNIN' OFF AND ABANDONIN' YOU AND ASAKO...
SAD EXCUSE FOR A HUMAN BEING...
...
...
SZZZ

I TAUGHT YOU HOW TO RIDE A BIKE IN THIS PARK HERE, KENJI.
THOSE WERE THE DAYS.
Szz

...
SZZZ
Y'KNOW, I REALLY HAD A BALL...
...RIDIN' AROUND WITH YOU TODAY.

ALL THANKS TO TSUTOMU, HOW 'BOUT THAT?
ゆっくり走ろう

KEN-ZEE.
WHY'D YA GO DO SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT ...
CHEET
CHEET
CHEET
...
I DON'T EVEN WANNA GO ON THE DAMN *FIELD TRIP.*
KEN-ZEE.
I KNOW IT WAS A DUMB THING TO DO.
GOO.
PISSES ME OFF, HIM ACTIN' ALL *BIG,* LIKE HE'S DOIN' ME A FAVOR.
YOU DON'T EVEN HAFTA GO IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.

*Book: Frankenstein; (cover) Public Library

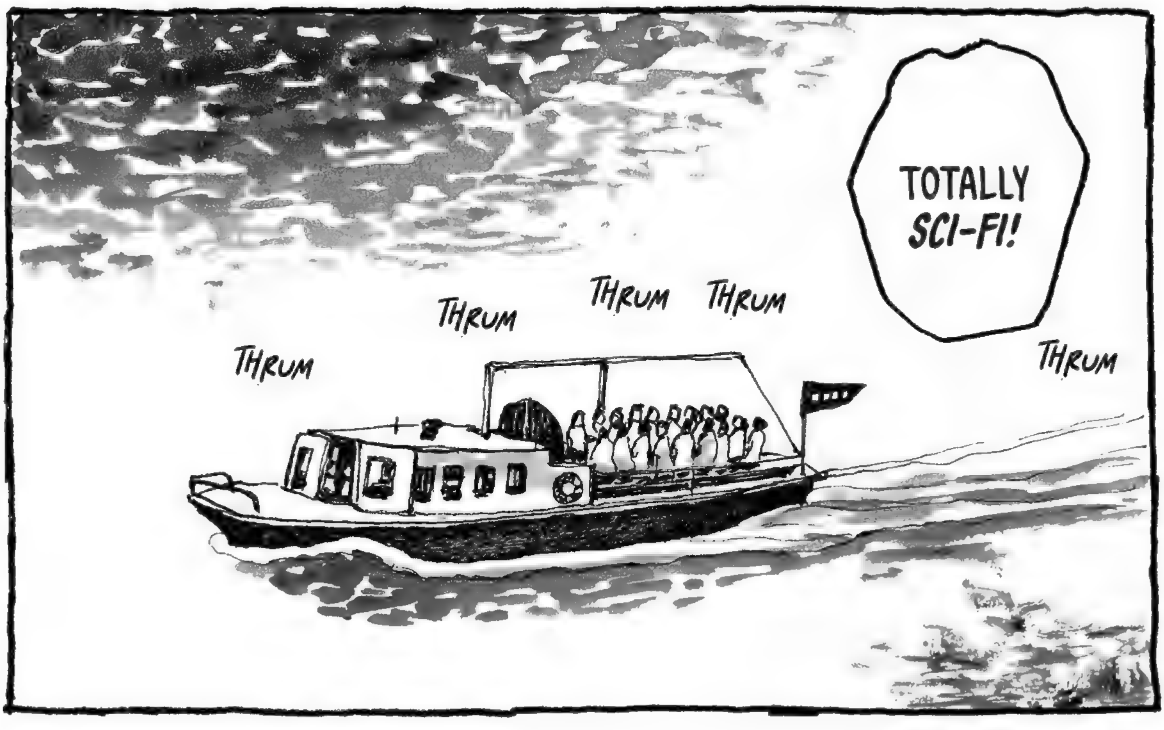
HEY HEY, QUIET DOWN, FOLKS.
BEEP
BEEP BEEP
GROAR
AND DON'T WANDER OFF, OKAY?
SO COME ON BACK HERE AT TWO O'CLOCK.
AFTER THAT, WE'LL HEAD OVER TO THE REFINERY!
GROARR
OKAY, DISMISSED!

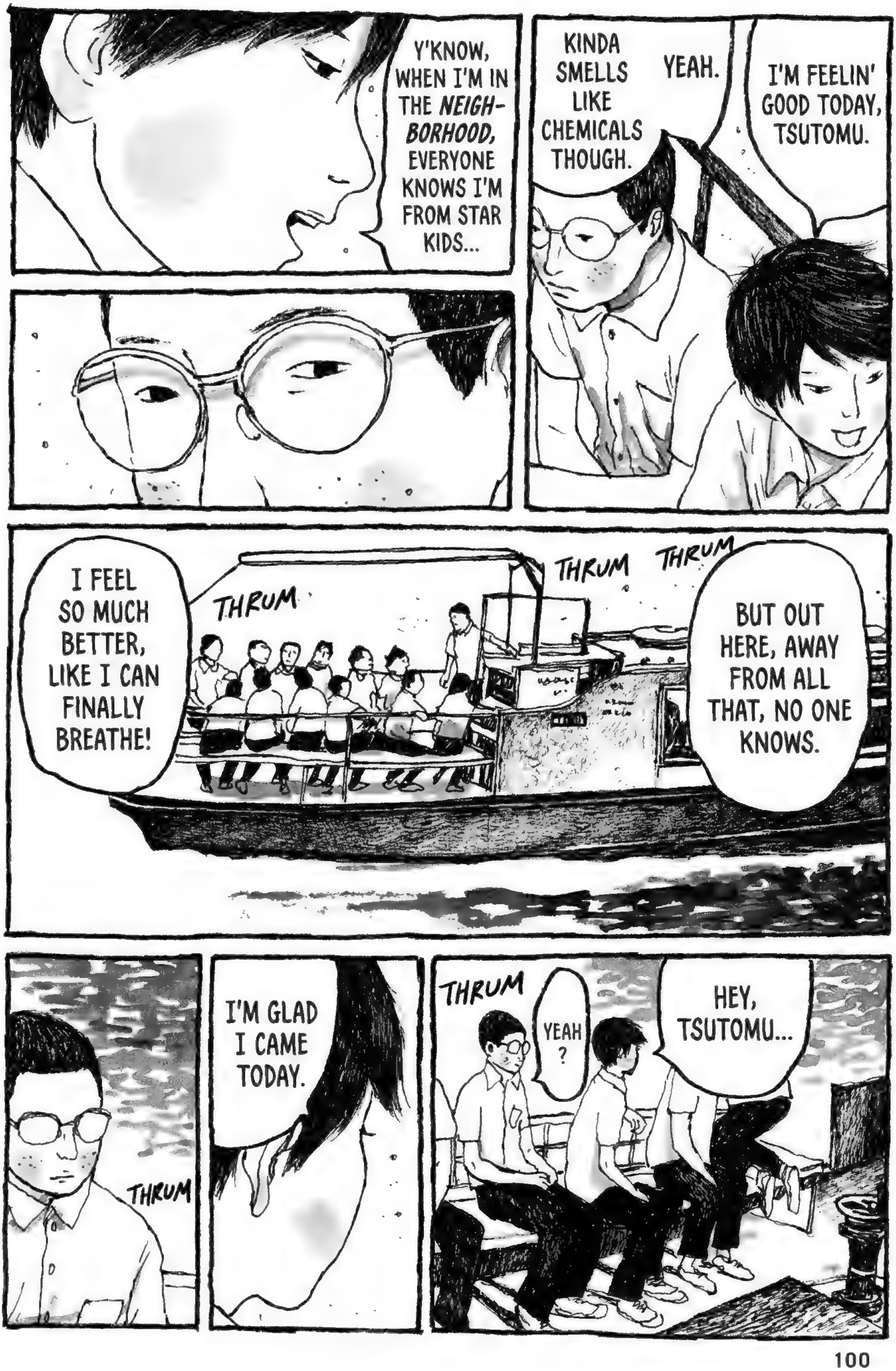
*Sign: Welcome

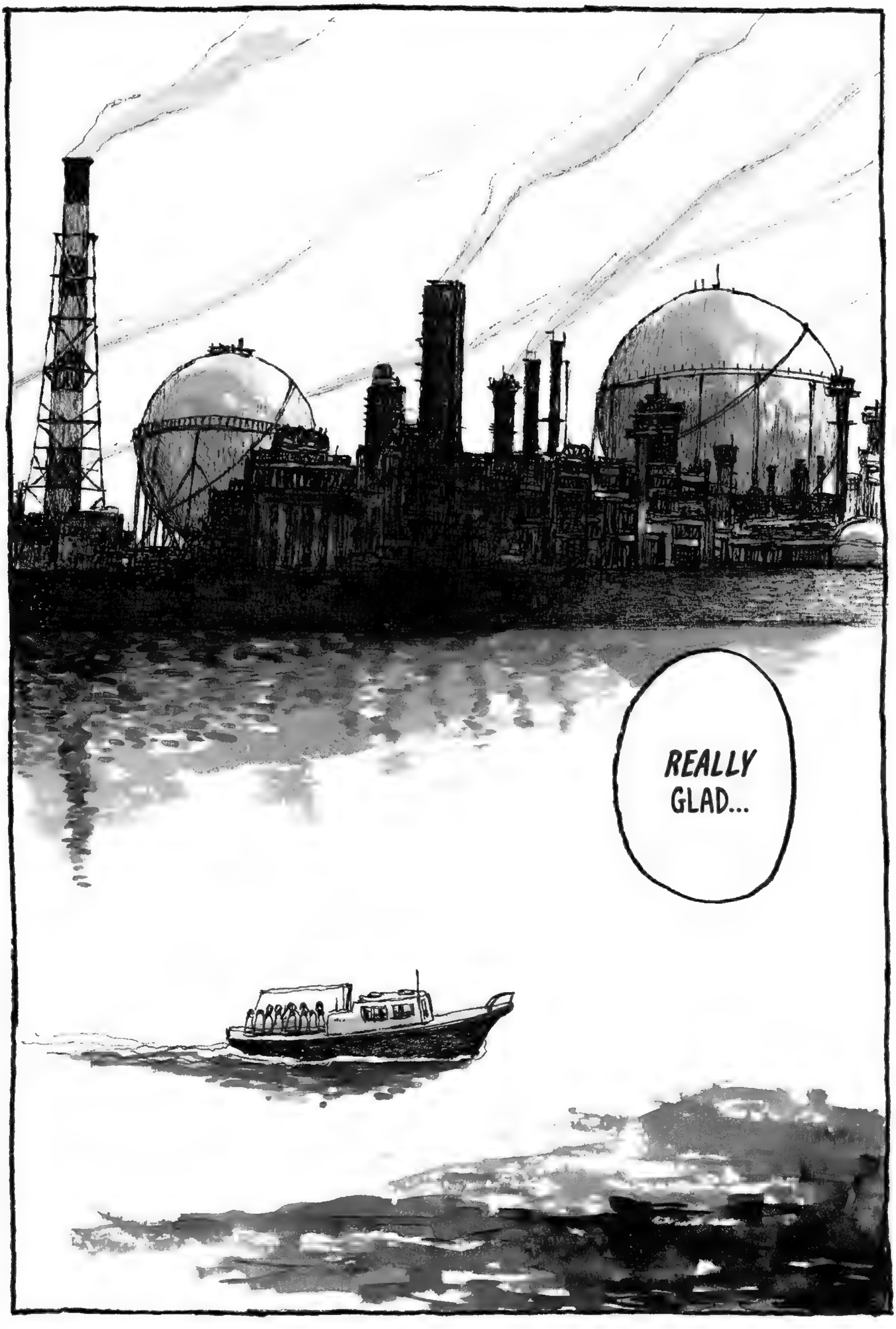
WHICH ONE, BLONDE OR BRU-NETTE?
HMM... EITHER'S OKAY I GUESS.
AND THE WINNER IS...
BRU-NETTE!
450 YEN... KINDA STEEP...
WHOA.
GONNA BUY IT?
FOR MY DAD...
AH...
HE REALLY DIGS THIS KINDA THING, Y'KNOW.
HEH HEH.
...

WOW, IT'S *MASSIVE!*

THRUM
THRUM
WHEN DID JAPAN GET SO *AWESOME?!*
THRUM


TOTALLY *SCI-FI!*
THRUM
THRUM
THRUM
THRUM
THRUM


Y'KNOW, WHEN I'M IN THE *NEIGHBORHOOD,* EVERYONE KNOWS I'M FROM STAR KIDS...
I'M FEELIN' GOOD TODAY, TSUTOMU.
YEAH.
KINDA SMELLS LIKE CHEMICALS THOUGH.
THRUM
THRUM
THRUM
BUT OUT HERE, AWAY FROM ALL THAT, NO ONE KNOWS.
I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER, LIKE I CAN FINALLY BREATHE!
THRUM
I'M GLAD I CAME TODAY.
THRUM
HEY, TSUTOMU...
YEAH?

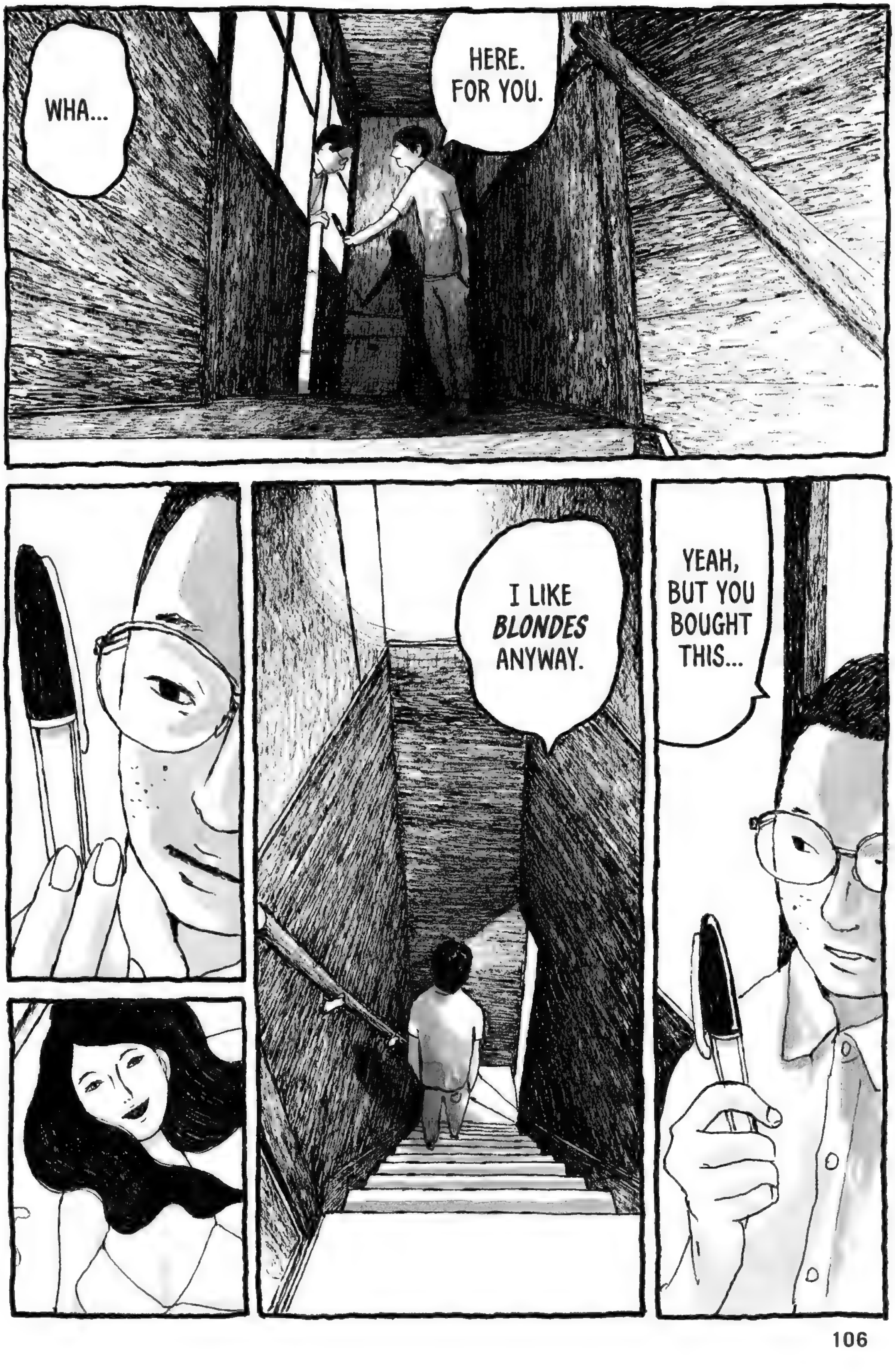

REALLY GLAD...

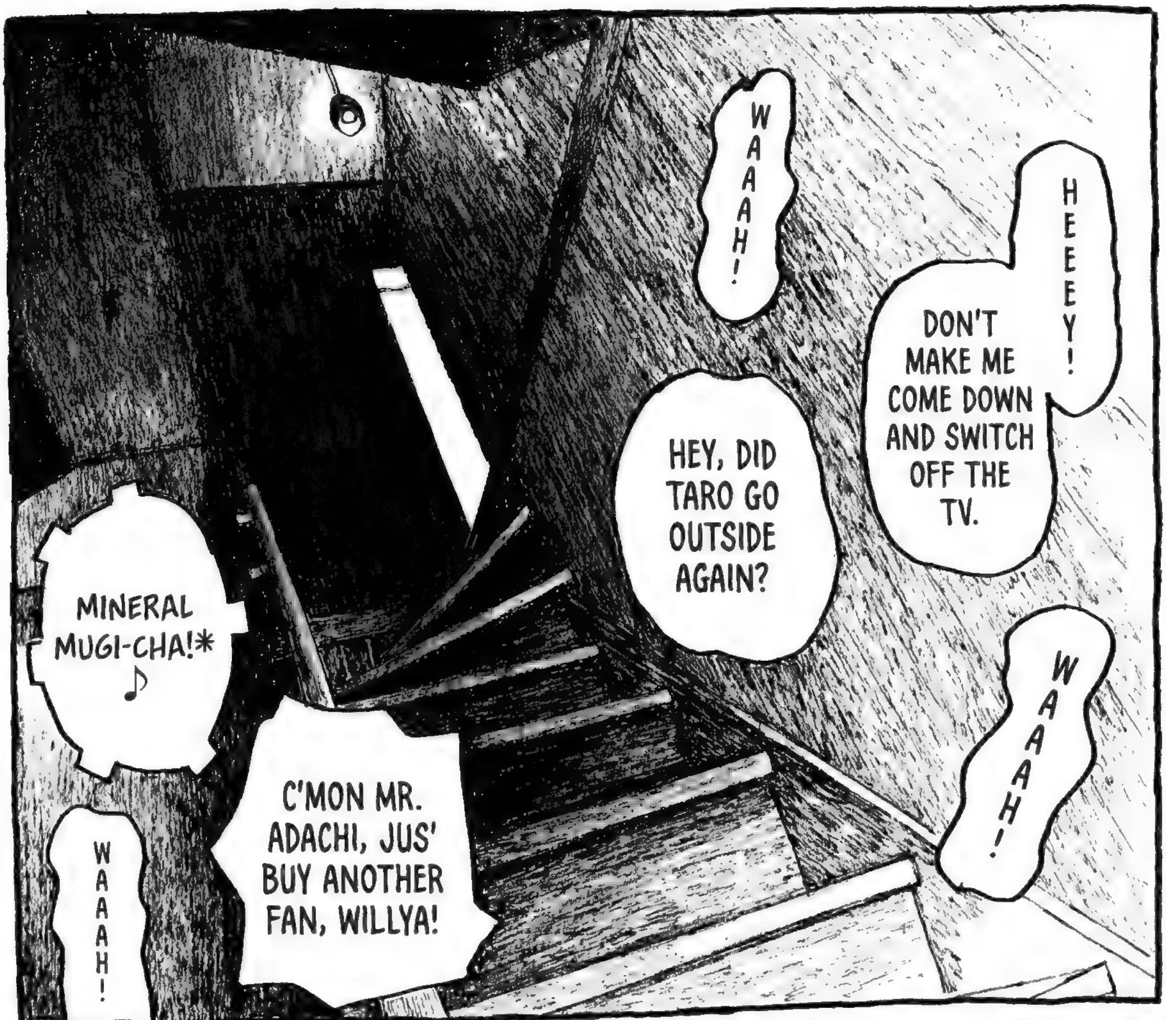
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
OH ...
WAAAH!
KENJI, I HATE TO TELL YOU THIS WHEN YOU'RE JUST GETTIN' BACK...
WAAAAAH!
THERE'S BEEN SOME *TROUBLE*.

GOT A CALL FROM THE NEWSPAPER SALES OFFICE JUST NOW...
WAAAH!
THEY SAID NONE OF THE HOUSES ON YOUR ROUTE GOT THEIR EVENING EDITION.
WAAAH!
MMM ...
mmf ...
GOT IT.
THEY SAID YOU HAD SOMEONE ELSE FILLING IN, BUT...
DON'T WORRY. I GOT IT.
WAAAH!
WAAAH!

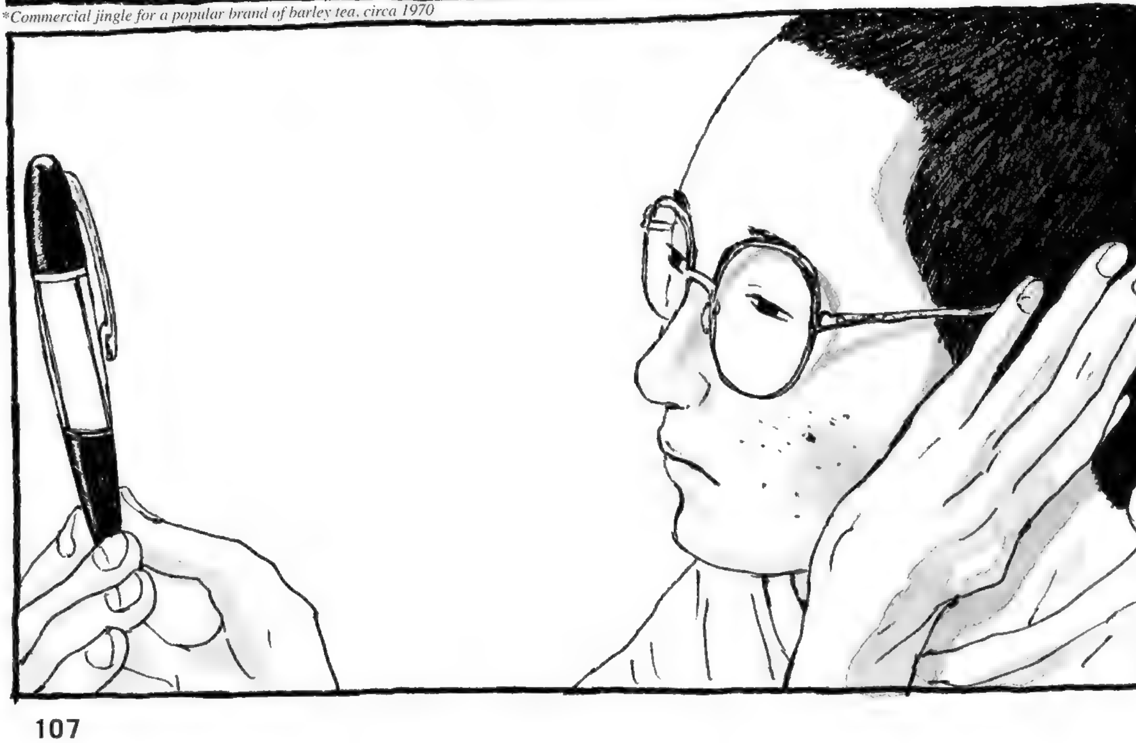
*Mechanical ball catchers on pachinko machines' scoring slots

*Can: "The Kan" sake


WHA...
HERE. FOR YOU.
I LIKE BLONDES ANYWAY.
YEAH, BUT YOU BOUGHT THIS...



*Commercial jingle for a popular brand of barley tea, circa 1970



PLEASE ACCEPT THIS...
...AS A TOKEN OF APOLOGY.
OH, REALLY ...
THAT'S NOT NECES-SARY.
GOOD LUCK, KID.
SHAKLAK
THANKS.
ホテル
GROAR

COME ON...
LITTLE BIT MORE...
THAT'S IT, THAT'S IT...
HEE HEE HEE.

WAAAH!
HEE HEE HEE...
WAAAH!
DON'T WANDER OFF, TARO.
AND IT'S THE THIRD PITCH!
WILL SOMEONE PLEASE CHANGE CHIAKI'S DIAPER?
HOW COME THE BOYS ALWAYS GET THE FANS?! SO UNFAIR ...
WAAAH!

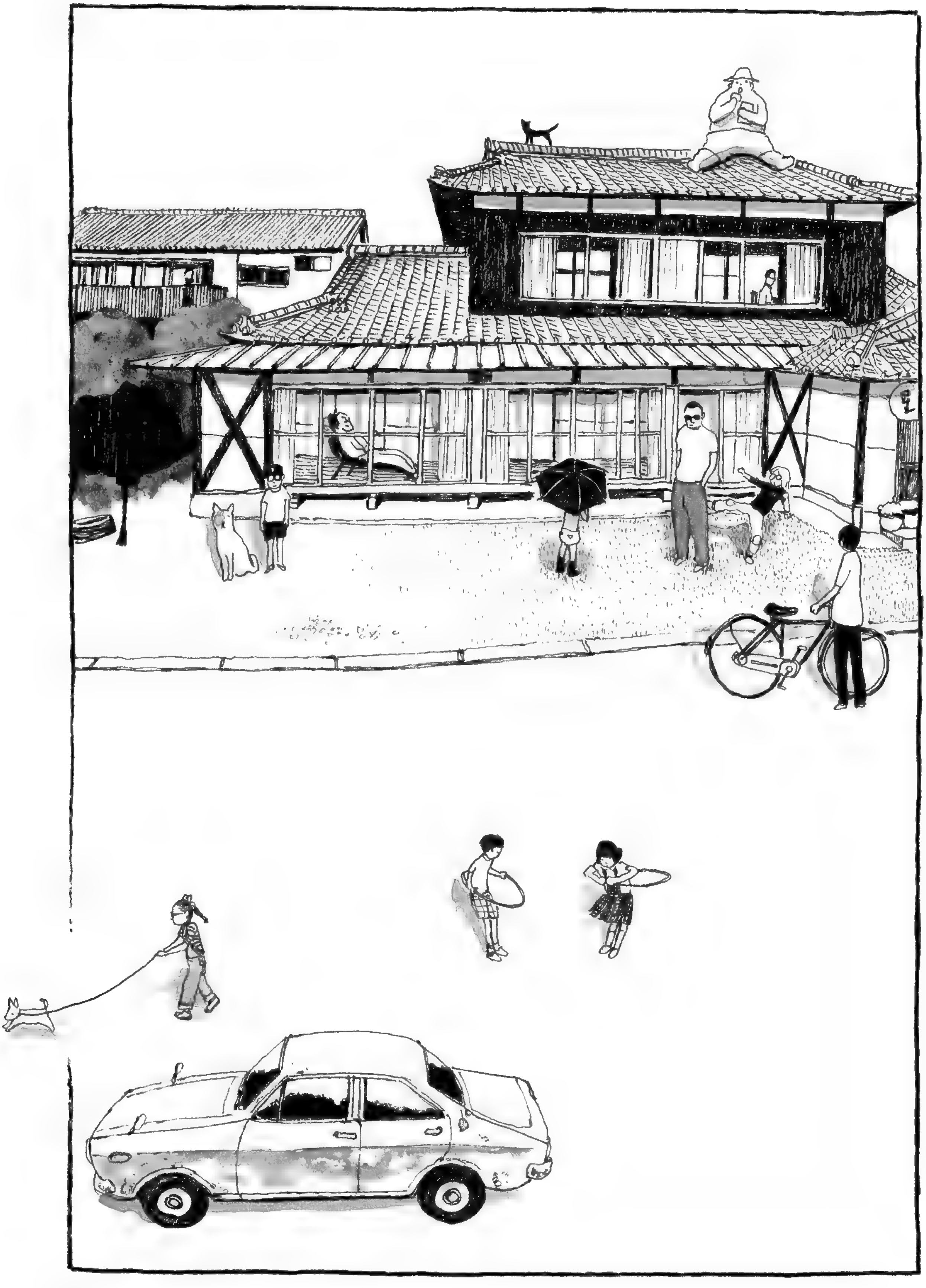
CHAPTER 34

"The sky's blushing, y'see."

"It's turnin' red, y'see."

WSHHH
WSHHH
HARUO'S PLANNING TO DITCH AGAIN.
♪
HE'S WHISTLING...

*Sign: Ice Cream



SEI, UM...
HM?
NAW.
NEVER MIND.
MORNING!
GOOD MORNING, TAKAHARA.

OH YEAH.
CAN I COME OVER TO STAR KIDS WHEN I WALK PES?
YEAH.
HOW 'BOUT I WALK KURI-MARU AND WE GO OVER TO THE TEGOSHI POND?
POND ?
YOU KNOW, WHERE THOSE TURTLES ARE.
SURE.
THERE'S THIS ONE TURTLE THAT'S ALWAYS SUNNING IN THE SAME SPOT.
I'M *OBSERV-ING* HIM.
OH YEAH ?
SOUNDS NEAT.

THEY BROKE THAT TIME DURING CLEANUP.
IT'S BEEN A WEEK NOW AND THEY'RE STILL TAPED UP.
SEI'S GLASSES ...
MORNING, TANAKA.
SHOW ME YOUR HOMEWORK. THE MIE PREFECTURE SPECIALTIES ONE.
HEY, SEI.
THE SAME HAT AND CLOTHES SINCE HE STARTED HERE...
HA HA HA
NO WAY. DO IT YOURSELF.
C'MON NOW, SHARE THE WEALTH!
I KNOW ...

...THAT HE CAN'T GET STUFF HE WANTS 'CAUSE HE'S FROM STAR KIDS HOME.
IT'S YOUR TURN, TAKAHIRO. GO TAKE OUT THE TRASH...
I'M NOT TAKA-HIRO!
KIDS HAVE TEASED HER.
DA 5 1000cc
TAKAHIRO
MEGUMU'S PENCIL BOX HAS THE LAST KID'S NAME ON IT.
KIKO'S USING ASAKO'S OLD BACKPACK, AND IT'S A DIFFERENT COLOR FROM EVERYONE ELSE'S.
THAT'S WHY SHE ALWAYS PUTS IT IN A CUBBY AT THE BACK RIGHT AWAY.

HOOAH
IT'S NOT FAIR...
HOOAH
HOOAH
HOOAH
HEY, TEACHER!
THIS *AIN'T* AN UMBRELLA!
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU? NO UMBRELLAS INSIDE!
AND GET RID OF THAT HARMONICA.
HOOOOO

IT'S MY HOUSE!
BING BONG
BING BONG
STUPID HAIR-BALL!
AH HA HA HA.
REGARDLESS, PUT IT AWAY.
HA HA HA.
HA HA HA.

NICE AND PEACEFUL.
WHITE DIDN'T COME TO SCHOOL AGAIN TODAY.
tee hee hee
WHITE SCARES ME.
YEAH, REALLY!
HE'S ALWAYS MAKIN' A SCENE.
I HAD NO IDEA ...
DID YOU HEAR THAT HE MUGGED NOZOMI'S LITTLE BROTHER?
EVERYTHING PAST HERE IS MY TERRITORY, Y'HEAR!!
HE WAS JUS' WALKIN' BY THE STATION, AND THEN HE GOT JUMPED!

YER GONNA HAFTA PAY IF YA WANNA GET THROUGH!
WHAT?! ISN'T THAT AGAINST THE LAW?
HE HAD TO GO SEE THE *PRINCIPAL.*
KUMI, AREN'T YOU SCARED GOIN' OVER TO THE *HOME?*
YEAH, REALLY!
UMM...
WELL, I GUESS I'D BE SCARED IF IT WAS JUST ME AND HIM, BUT...
OKAY KIDS, TIME TO GET BACK TO CLASS!
Yes, sir!

CAW CAW
THE BUNNIES ARE SO CUTE!
AREN'T THEY?
COMIN' OVER TODAY, KUMI?
YEAH.
BUT FIRST I HAFTA CLEAN UP THE HUTCH AND STOP BY HOME.
OKAY, SEE YA LATER. BYE-BYE.
BYE-BYE.

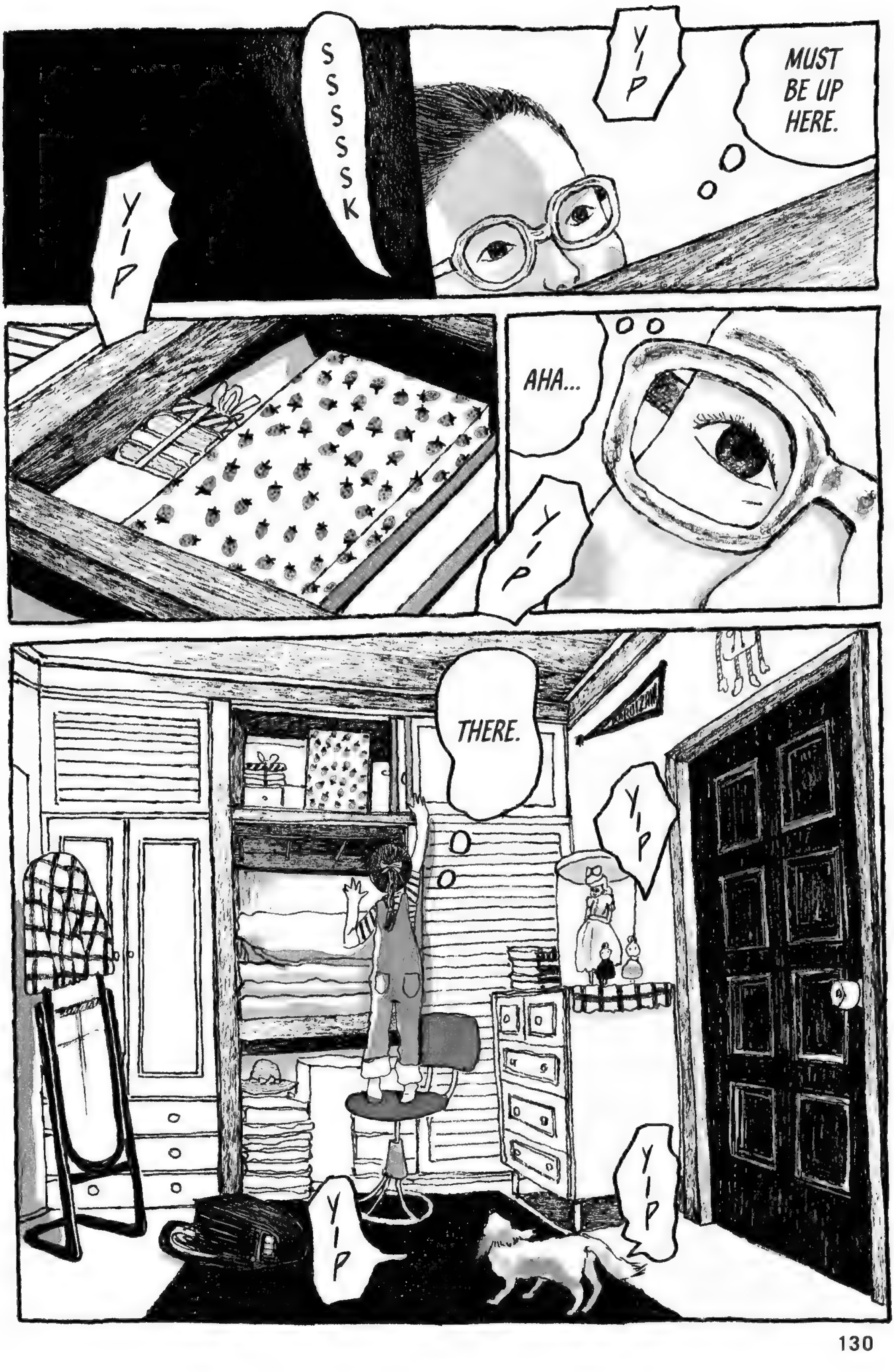
...
HA HA HA HA
OH... YEAH!
I JUST HAD A GREAT IDEA!

HEE HEE HEE...
DON'T KNOW WHY I DIDN'T THINK OF IT BEFORE.
HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE...
GROAR
EW, TERRIBLE HAND-WRITING...
UMM... WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO GET?
I GOTTA GO SHOPPING ON THE WAY HOME.
OH... YEAH...
GROAR

HOME AGAIN!
KLIK
MOM? YOU HERE?
DON'T SHOUT, DEAR!
HEY, CHIKA'S *AWAKE* ...
YES, THAT'S WHY I SAID, "*IF* SHE'S SLEEPING."
WE DON'T WANT TO WAKE UP CHIKA IF IT'S HER NAP TIME.
WELCOME BACK!
Home again.
LOOK, CHIKA ...
THE LITTLE BEAR CAME OUT!

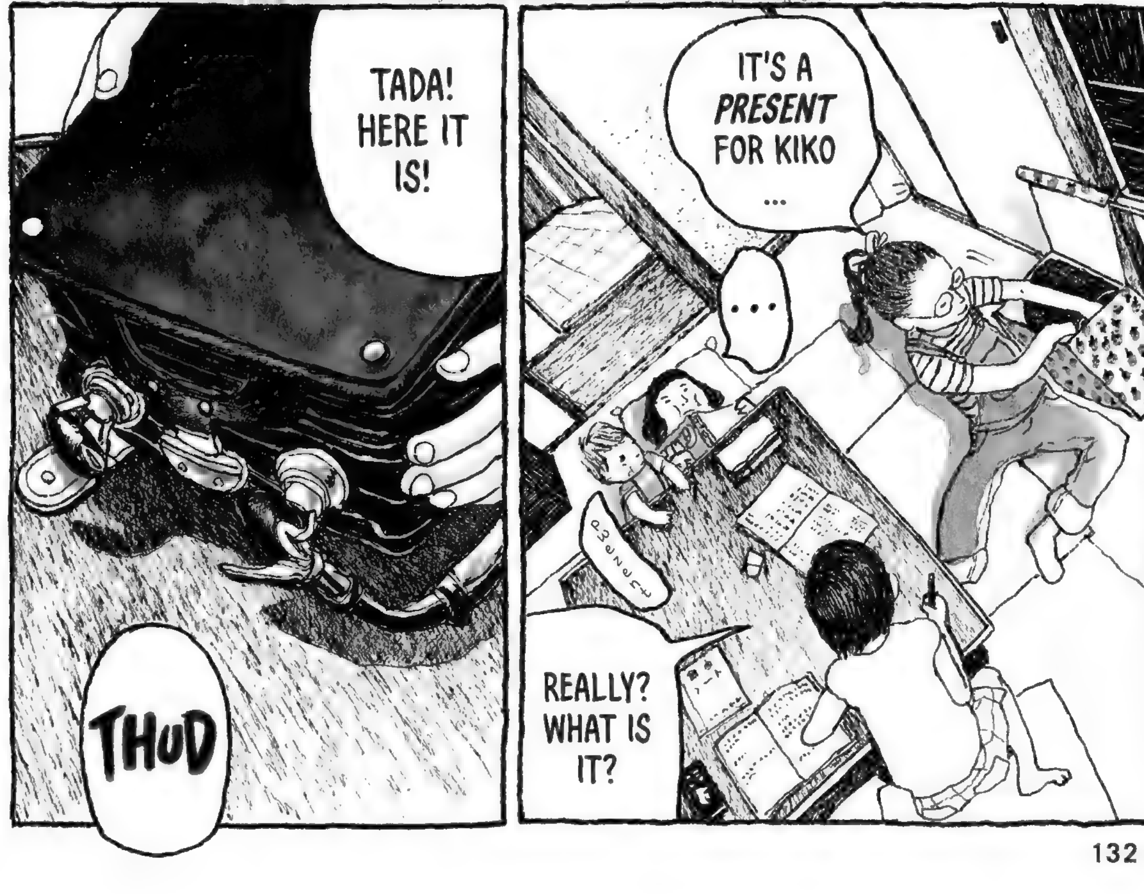
MOM, I'LL PUT THE GROCERIES IN HERE.
LOOK AT THE LITTLE BEAR ...
WHAT *IS* HE DOING?
B-E-A-R.
...
THERE WAS NO TENYA SAUCE SO I GOT IGETA BRAND.
OH DEAR, THAT WON'T DO.
I GET TENYA BRAND BECAUSE YOUR FATHER CAN'T HAVE THE SWEET STUFF.
COULD YOU RETURN IT LATER?
WHAAT?
DON'T FORGET TO TAKE THE RECEIPT, OKAY?

I'LL DO IT AFTER I WALK PES.
AND KUMI, DON'T BE STOPPING OFF AT THAT *HOME*.
RYOKO'S MOTHER SAID YOU'VE PRACTICALLY *MOVED IN* TO STAR KIDS HOME.
COME STRAIGHT HOME AND STUDY. I DON'T WANT YOU GOING NEAR *THAT* KIND OF PLACE.
Y'HEAR?
...
OH, THAT'S LOVELY, CHIKA!
YOU'RE A REAL ARTIST!
hooo


MUST BE UP HERE.
YIP
SSSSSK
YIP
AHA...
YIP
THERE.
YIP
YIP
YIP

WOW, THIS ONE'S SO *HARD*...
YEAH? WHICH ONE?
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
星の子学園
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY HOW MUCH ONE CAKE IS, RIGHT? THERE'S FOUR CAKES, AND THE BOX IS 50 YEN, AND EVERYTHING ELSE COSTS 370 YEN. OKAY, SO 370 IS 50 PLUS 4 TIMES X.
YEAH ...
NO CLUE...
KEE-KO...
KEE-KO ...
JUST DON'T OVERTHINK IT.
WET'S PWAY.
HANAKO BUYS FOUR CAKES...
AND THE BOX COSTS 50 YEN...
...

*Dokaben *was a baseball manga by* Shinji Mizushima*, serialized from 1972 to 1981 in* Weekly Shōnen Champion *magazine.*



WOW...
LOOK, IT'S A SCHOOL BACKPACK!
goo
...
YUP!
BRAND NEW!
goo
HOW COME?
UM, WELL...
MY GRANDMA GOT IT FOR ME WHEN I WAS A FIRST GRADER, BUT...
...MY UNCLE GOT ME THE SAME ONE.
THAT'S *NOT* WHAT I MEAN.
HOW COME I GOTTA TAKE A BACKPACK FROM YOU?
THAT'S WHAT I'M ASKIN'.
GOO.

UM...
WELL...
I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
KIKO...
goo
TAKE IT BACK HOME WITH YOU.
KEEP IT.
WET'S PWAY.
AWWW! CHIAKI'S SO NOISY, I CAN'T EVEN READ MY COMIC!
K...
KIKO, YOU ALWAYS SAY YOU WANT A NEW BACK-PACK...
AND KUMI BROUGHT ONE FOR YOU!
KEE-KO.
...
TAKE. IT. BACK.

I REALLY MADE KIKO ANGRY.
WHOA!
RATTLE
SLAM
I'LL GO TO MY ROOM AND READ!
...
KEE-KO.
WHICH ONE?
SURE.
UH... WELL... HEY, HEY!
KOO-MEE.
HELP ME WITH THIS ONE, KUMI.
WET'S PWAY.
UH, WELL, YOU NEED TO CALCULATE AREA.
UH-HUH.
IF THE BASE IS 5 CM, HOW TALL IS IT?
UM ...
CAW CAW

ARF
ARF
I'M SORRY, SEI.
I GOTTA STOP OFF AT THE SUPER-MARKET.
YIP
YIP
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
OH...
YIP
SO I'M GONNA LEAVE NOW.
LET'S SEE THE TURTLE NEXT TIME.
ARF
OKAY ...
GOT IT.
ARF
YIP
YIP
BYE-BYE, SEI.
HUFF
BYE-BYE.
HUFF
HUFF

KA KLUNK
KA KLUNK
YOU'RE GOIN' HOME EARLY TODAY, KUMI.
KA KLUNK
TAKE CARE NOW.
KA KLUNK
WSHHHH

WHEW!
THAT'S HEAVY.
...
THUD
HERE WE GO.
C'MON, PES.
YIP

Heeey...
Nerdy Kumiii!
Heeey!

NERDY KUMI!
Heeey! OVER HERE!
Don't ignore meee!
OH...
COOL, AIN'T IT?
LOOK-IT MEEE!
WSHHHHH
?
HARUO.

**Kite flying is a New Year's tradition*

AIN'T IT?!
HA HA
IT'S FLYIN' SO HIGH.
HA HA HA HA!! HAI-YAH!!
S'GONNA CRASH INTO VENUS!
YOU'RE MESSIN' UP MY KITE-FLYIN' MOOD!
DON'T SAY THAT!
HARUO, YOU BETTER COME TO SCHOOL TOMORROW OR YOU'LL HAFTA GO TO STUDY HALL AGAIN.
...
HARUO'S SO SILLY.
HEY, TARO!
A LITTLE MORE TO THE RIGHT ...
Uhh

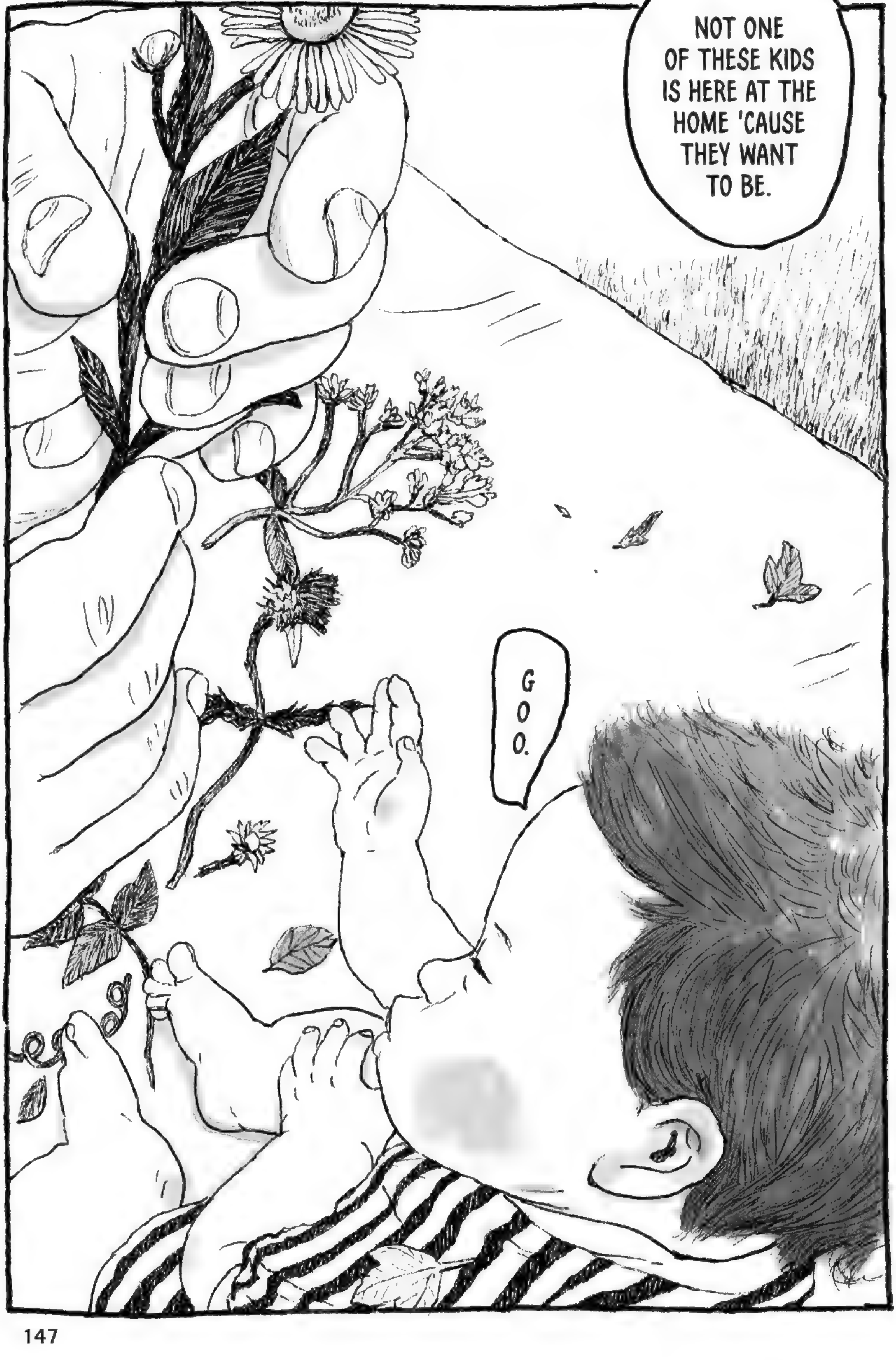
WHAAT? HMM?
HEEEY! NERDY KUMI!
COME BACK AND PLAY AGAIN SOMETIME!

SURE...!

CHAPTER 35

"Virgo,
Capricorn."

"Unicorn,
popcorn."


NOT ONE OF THESE KIDS IS HERE AT THE HOME 'CAUSE THEY WANT TO BE.
GOO.

SURE, ON THE OUTSIDE THEY'RE LAUGHING AND SINGING, BUT ON THE INSIDE THEY'RE *HOLLOWED OUT.*
FWOW-ER.
AWW.
LEMME TOO!
THEY'RE *MISERABLE* BECAUSE THEY FEEL *ALIENATED* ...
HARUO MAKES TROUBLE, BUT HE'S NOT A *BAD* KID.
What's that?
GNN!
LEMME. LEMME.
HE ACTUALLY WANTS TO *GET ALONG*. ALL HIS MISCHIEF IS JUST THE *FLIP SIDE* OF THAT.
ME TOO.

I'LL GIVE HIM A REAL SCOLDING!
AND, TRUST ME, WE'LL PAY KENTARO'S DOCTOR BILLS.
NO, NO...
WE WOULDN'T EVEN NEED TO BE HERE IF HE'D BENEFIT FROM A SCOLDING.
HE'S DRIVING ALL THE OTHER KIDS AROUND HERE CRAZY.
YEP.
EVEN CONSIDERING HIS SPECIAL CIRCUM-STANCES...
HE'D TRY A SAINT'S PATIENCE!
PLEASE FORGIVE US. WE'RE DEEPLY SORRY!
HRMM.

*Literally "Red Devil," a common pub name

CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
IF IT ISN'T THE STAR KIDS COMING HOME.
WELL, WELL.
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS HERE FOR?
HELLO.
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
BE GOOD KIDS AND DO WHAT YOU'RE TOLD.
HA HA HA.
WE JUST CAME BY TO CHAT WITH MR. ADACHI AND SEE HOW Y'ALL WERE DOING.
CHEE CHEE CHEE
HEY, WHERE'S HARUO?
HASN'T BEEN AT SCHOOL FOR A WHILE.
HE'S BEEN *PLAYING* AT THE TRUCK STOP ALL DAY LONG.
WHAT THE HELL?!!

THOSE PLATES ARE FROM NERIMA.
VROOM
AND... AND THEN...
THEN THERE'S *SHINAGAWA* TOO!
THOSE AND A BUNCHA OTHER ONES ARE FROM THE TOKYO AREA.
I ASKED A TRUCK DRIVER.
PSSSSS
GROAR
IN

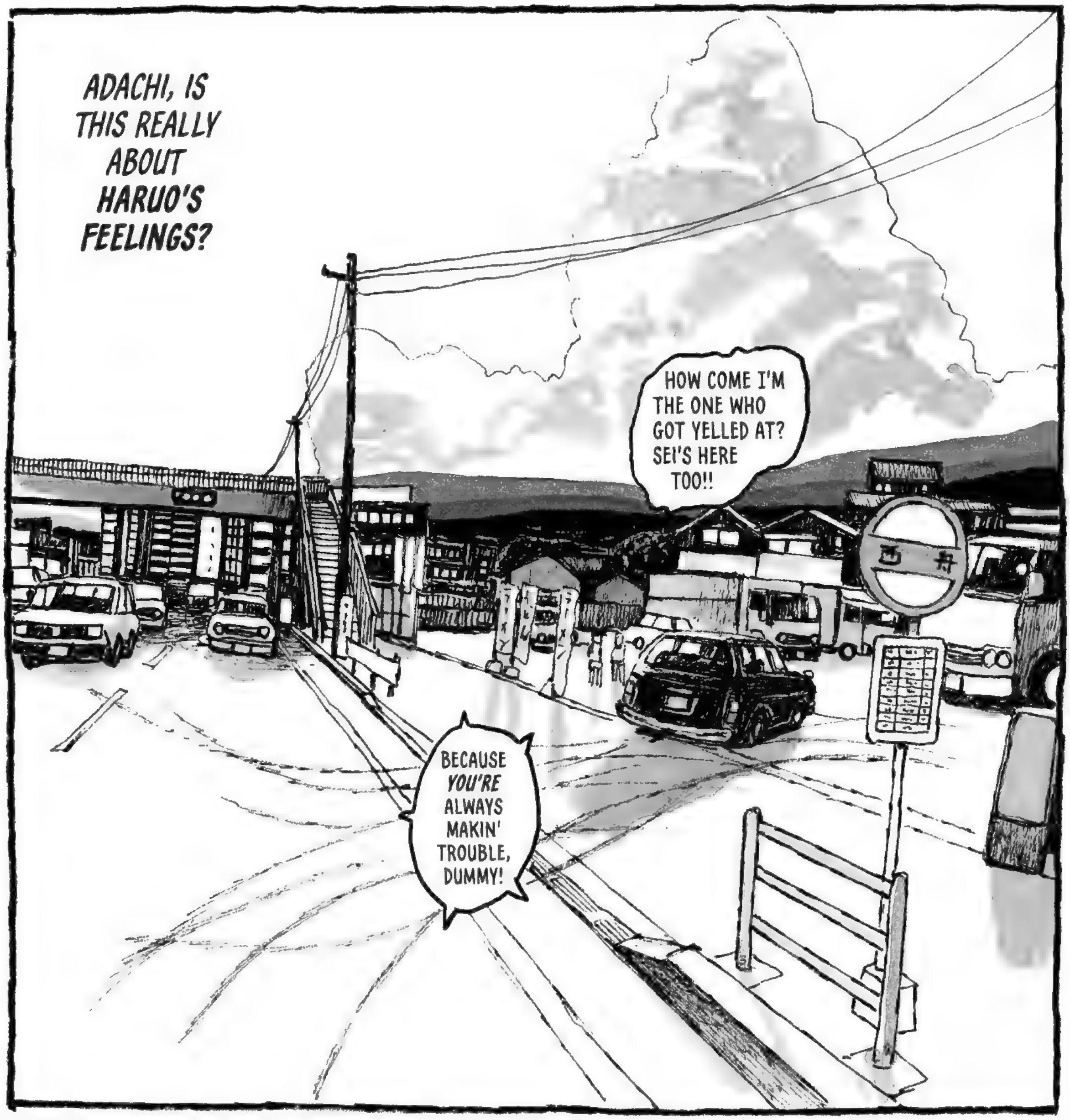
HANGIN' OUT HERE EVERY DAY YOU SEE A FEW TRUCKS HEADED TO TOKYO.
IT'S FUN TO *IMAGINE*, LIKE, HEY, THAT GUY'S GOIN' TO TOKYO!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
THE ADACHI AND TAMA PLATES TOO, HARUO.
...
THERE'S NOT THAT MANY THAT GO DIRECT ...
...SO I LOOK FOR ONES THAT GO THROUGH TOKYO TOO.
NAGOYA, HAMA-MATSU, SHIZUOKA, SAGAMI...
AND THEN THERE'S SOME THAT GO NORTHWARD BEYOND TOKYO AND YOKO-HAMA.
"NORTH-WARD"?
BROOO
GROAR
Chiba, Omiya...
THIS TOWN'S PROB'LY JUS' TOO SMALL FOR HARUO.

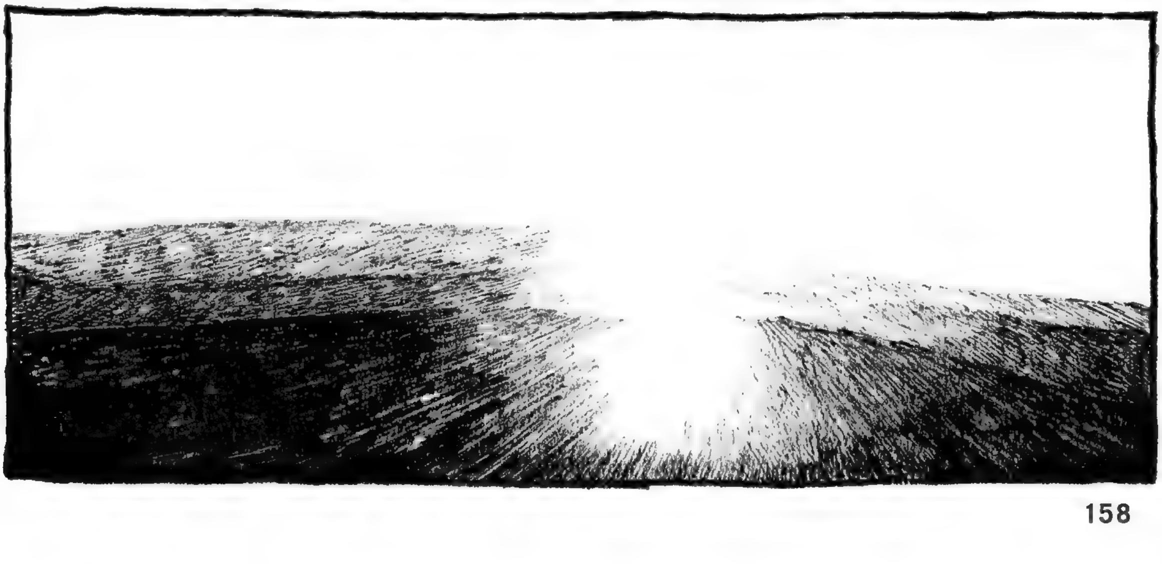
CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE
HE'S FROM THE BIG CITY, RIGHT?
星の子学園
...
IT'D BE TOUGH TO BREATHE IN A LITTLE TOWN, ALL THOSE NEIGHBORS ON THE LOOKOUT.
...
CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE
IN A PLACE LIKE THAT, HE'D FEEL CORNERED, PIGEONHOLED AS A "BAD KID."
THESE DAYS I CAN HARDLY BEAR TO LOOK AT HARUO... POOR KID.

WE COULD SEND HIM OFF TO YOKKAICHI HOUSE...
...BUT IT SEEMS PRE-MATURE, RIGHT?
HMM...
HARUO'S ONE OF OUR STAR KIDS.
I'LL STAND BY HIM AND TRAIN HIM MYSELF.
ADACHI, IS THIS REALLY ABOUT HARUO'S FEELINGS...
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
...OR IS THAT YOUR PRIDE TALKING?
FWOW-ER.
HA HA HA...
SHO-SUKE'S!

HEY, THERE!
KURI-MARU'S!
NOM
CHIA-KI'S!
Uhh.
TARO'S!
星の子学園
HAVEN'T Y'ALL PICKED ENOUGH?
THERE'S HARDLY ANY LEFT!
HERE.
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE
CHEE CHEE CHEE CHEE

AW, MAN!
DAMMIT, HARUO!!
BEEEP
JUS' WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, PLAYIN' OUT HERE THIS LATE?!
GET IN, WE'RE GOIN'!!
QUIT YOUR HONKIN'!
YER GONNA KILL SOMEONE WITH THAT NOISE!!


ADACHI, IS THIS REALLY ABOUT HARUO'S FEELINGS?
HOW COME I'M THE ONE WHO GOT YELLED AT? SEI'S HERE TOO!!
BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS MAKIN' TROUBLE, DUMMY!



*"U.F.O.," best selling single from idol duo Pink Lady, 1977

Hisao Niura, pitcher for Tokyo's Yomiuri Giants, 1968-1983

FRIT-TERS AGAIN ?!
WHY EVEN BOTHER ...
CALL 'EM "STAR KIDS FRITTERS" AND SELL 'EM.
QUIT COM-PLAINING!
HEY, WHERE'S HARUO?
SENT HIM UPSTAIRS WITHOUT SUPPER.
AWW, POOR LITTLE HARUO. ♪
HEY, DID THOSE OLD GUYS COME TODAY 'CAUSE OF HARUO?
YES, THEY DID, END OF DISCUSSION! NOW EAT.
LET'S EAT!
LET'S EEEAT!
PRR

WOW, DAD, LOOK. THE SUN'S SO BRIGHT IT'S MAKING RAYS!
LOOKS LIKE HEAVEN.
HA HA HA. YEAH...
THEY CALL THOSE "SUN LEGS," MINORU. HOW 'BOUT THAT?
"SUN LEGS"?

YUP. 'CAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE THE SUN'S GOT LEGS.
... ADA-CHI.
MR. ADACHI.
HELLOOO THERE...
MR. ADACHIII.
SNNR...

OH...
HEY, JUNSUKE. WHAT'S UP?
THE WIND'S MAKIN' ALL THAT NOISE...
WOKE ME UP AND NOW I CAN'T GO BACK TA SLEEP.
TREES RUST-LIN' AND SHAKIN', LIKE "SHWAA" ...
LIKE THEY'RE ALIVE.
CAN I COME SLEEP IN YOUR ROOM?
HMM ...
SURE, WHY NOT.
BUT I JUS' FINISHED PUTTIN' CHIAKI DOWN, SO...
...

WOW!
AMAZING STARS, MR. ADACHI!
YEAH, AMAZING.
HEY, JUN, DON'T TELL THE OTHER KIDS WE WENT FOR A DRIVE LIKE THIS.
HUH?
NO WAY!
I'M DEF'NITELY GONNA TELL 'EM.
...
LOOK, MR. ADACHI, LOOK!
THE TOWN'S SPARKLING!
YEAH, SPARKLING.
...
WOOO
HEY, JUNSUKE...
HMM?

WITH YOUR MOM BEIN' SICK AN' ALL...
...I BETCHA HAFTA SHUT OUT YOUR FEELINGS ALOT.
WOOO
MAYBE SOME KIDS AT SCHOOL TEASE YOU, AN' SOMETIMES YOU EVEN GET SAD.
OOO
BUT Y'KNOW, JUN...
THAT *SADNESS*.. THAT'S GONNA MAKE YOU *STRONG* SOMEDAY.
IT'S GONNA BE YOUR *FRIEND* AND *PROTECT* YOU.
GRUNK

VROOM

NO ALCOHOL FOR ME, THANKS.
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG

THEM'S THE RULES.
OH YEAH?
I'M SO GRATEFUL TO YOU, MR. ADACHI.
CAN'T THINK HOW I'D EVER REPAY YOU...
KRUNK
KIKO, HOW 'BOUT YOU? AIN'T YOU THIRSTY?
AND THEY'RE OFF!
BANG!
...
KLIK
KLIK
NOPE.
AND LUCKY STAR'S IN THE LEAD BY A LENGTH!

Newspaper: Daily Sports

IT'S LOW ARROW IN THE LEAD!
HMPH ...
...
IN THE LEAD BY HALF A LENGTH!
I, UH... JUST CAME BY TODAY TO, UH... CHECK ON YOU...
OH... IS THAT RIGHT?
DIDN'T REALIZE THIS WAS AN OFFICIAL *HOUSE CALL.*
OF COURSE, Y'KNOW, I'D LOVE IT IF KIKO AN' I COULD LIVE TOGETHER ...
SHE'S MY ONLY DAUGHTER, DON'TCHA KNOW.
ZPFT
BUT Y'KNOW... LIKE, THERE WAS THAT TROUBLE WITH THE LAST GUY...
TAKIN' OFF WITH MY CHECKBOOK AN' ALL THAT.
AND SEIKO HAMMER, THE FAVORITE, IS BRINGING UP THE REAR!
GOT NOTHIN' TO SPARE, Y'KNOW ...
SAPPORO
...
UVOP
...

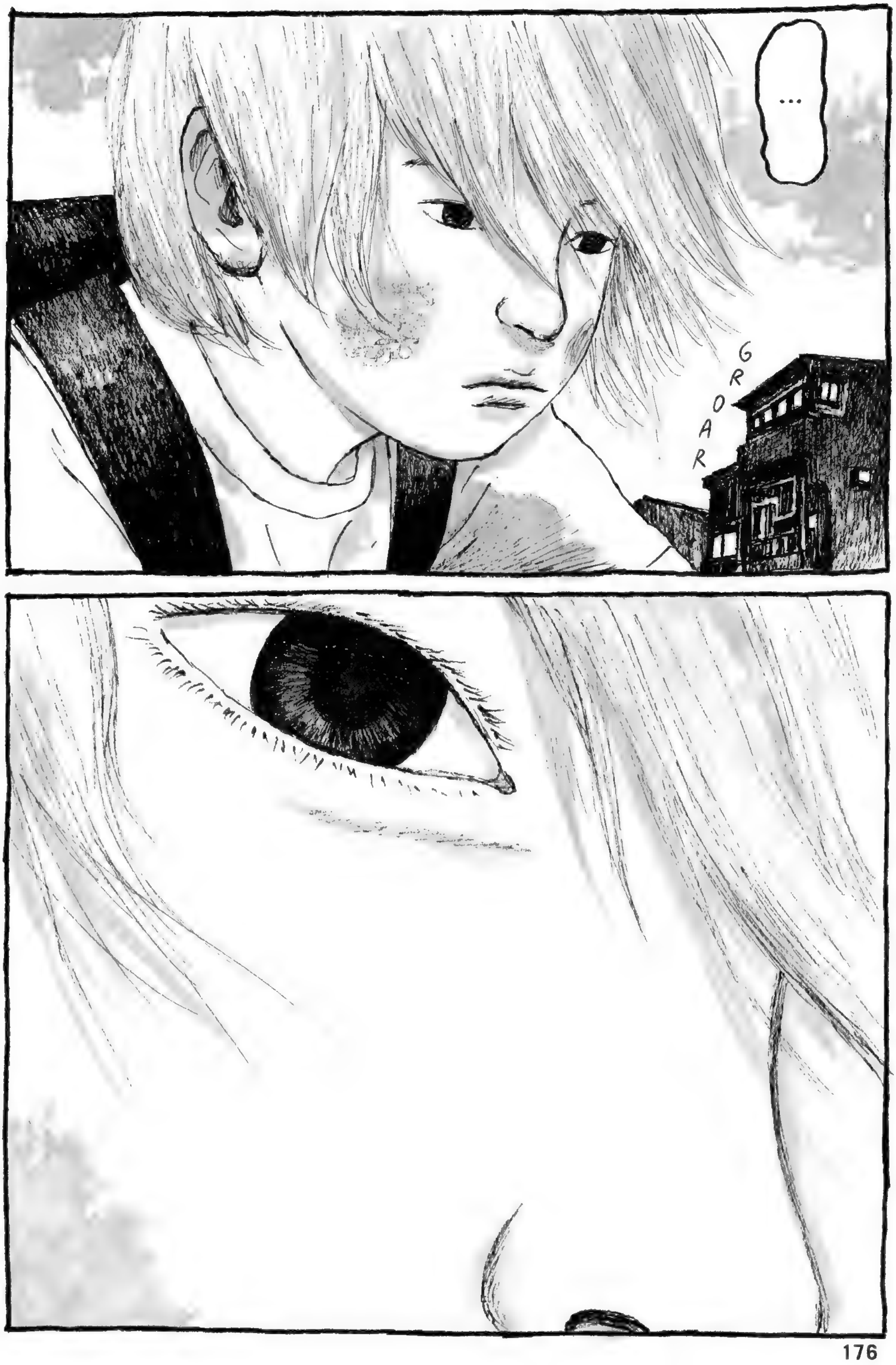
GROAR
I GOTTA KEEP THIS PLACE OPEN IN THE DAYTIME, NO GOOD CUSTOMERS ...
I'M JUST *RUNNIN' ON FUMES.*
KIKO, WANNA GET YOUR FORTUNE TOLD?
HERE, LEMME SEE THAT.
I DON'T WANNA.
SEIKO HAMMER CAN'T PUNCH THROUGH!
HE'S FALLEN BACK TO FOURTH PLACE.
IT'S SCORPIO, RIGHT?
VIRGO.
OKAY, SO YA POINT THIS ARROW HERE TO VIRGO.
...
AND SEE, KIKO, HERE'S YOUR FORTUNE!
THEY'RE ROUNDING THE LAST CORNER NOW!
WILLYA JUS' LOOK AT THAT!
"A WONDERFUL MAN MAY COME INTO YOUR LIFE."
...

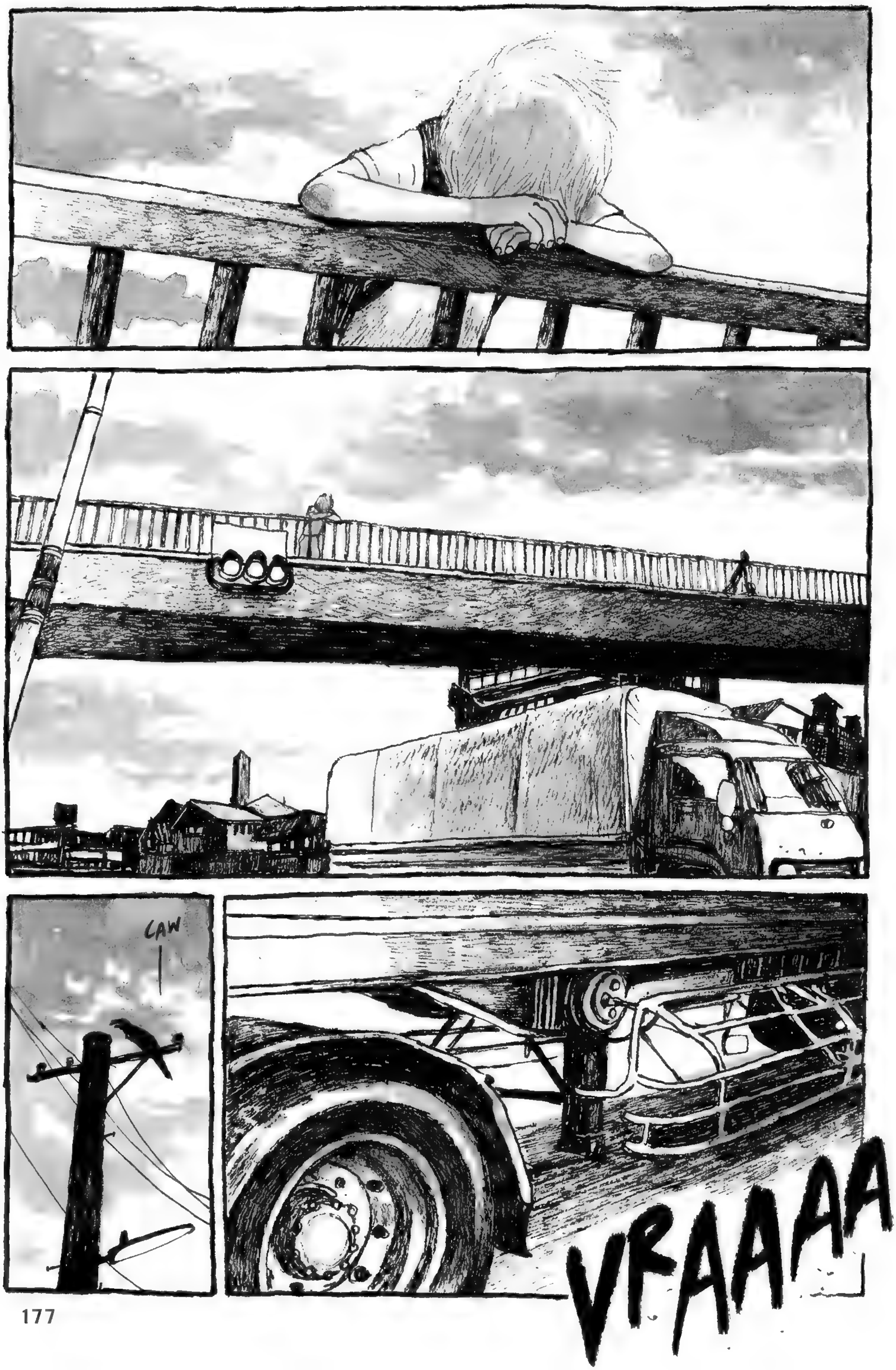
*Bar sign: Snack Bar Yoko

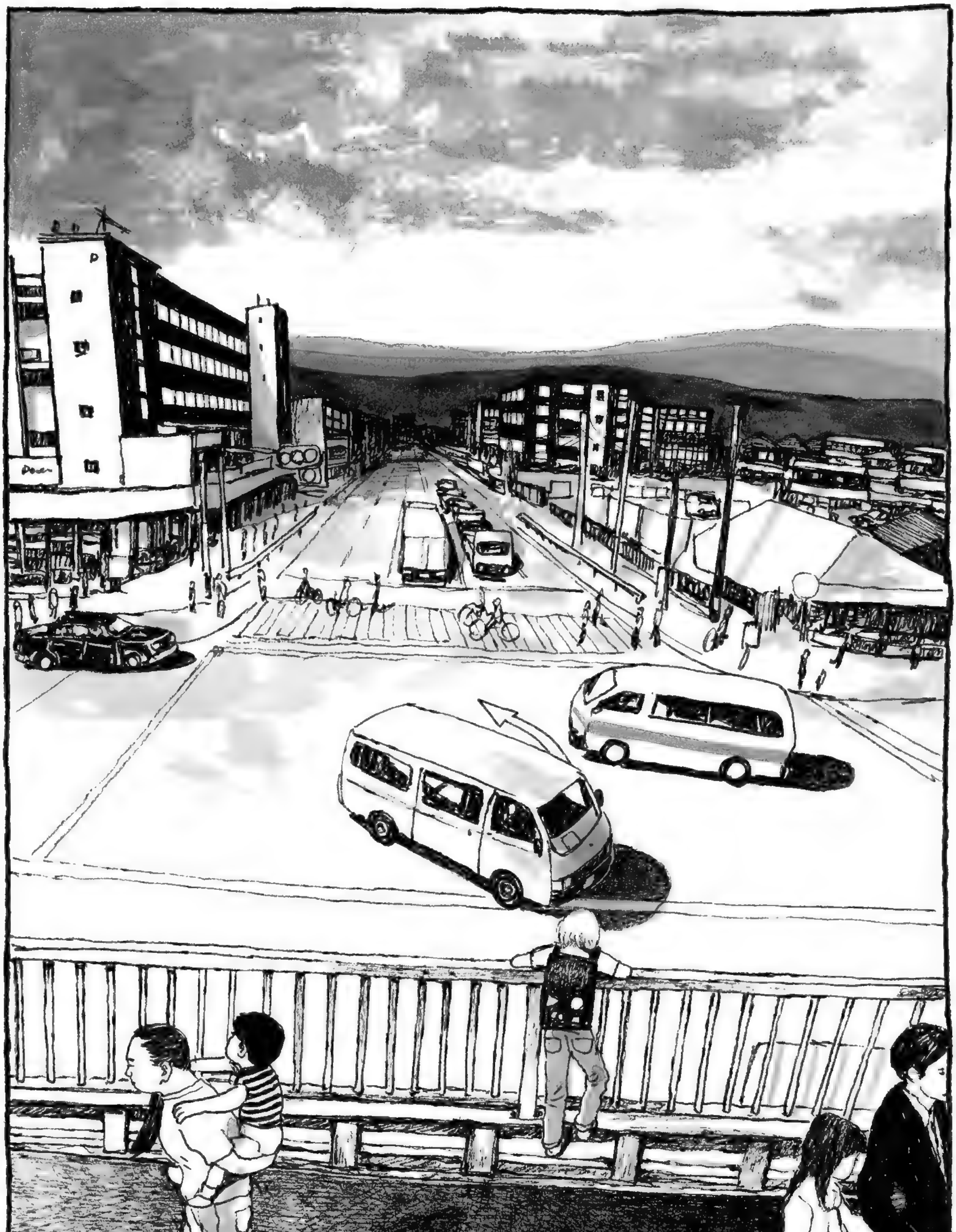
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
MOMMY, MOMMY, BUY IT FOR ME!
KLANG
PLEASE, MOMMY, PLEASE!
I SAID NO AND I MEAN IT!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I GOTTA TELLYA?
SAY IT AGAIN AND YOU'RE WALKIN' HOME BY YOURSELF!
KLANG
I DON'T CARE! JUS' BUY IT FOR ME!
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG

GOT YOUR JACKET IN THE BAG.
KLANG
KLANG
ARE'NT YA CHILLY, KIKO?
I'M FINE.
KLANG
KLANG
NO...
GROAR
KLANG
KLAK-KLAK-KLAK-KLAK

NERIMA ...
GWRR
SHINA-GAWA ...
OSAKA ...
SHIZU-OKA ...
TAMA ...
...


...
GROAR


CAW
VRAAAA



CHAPTER 36

"Home again, home again."

"Welcome back."

*From the "Higashimurayama Chorus," popularized by comedian Ken Shimura (of "Drifters" fame) circa 1963, and remade by Shimura himself in 1976.

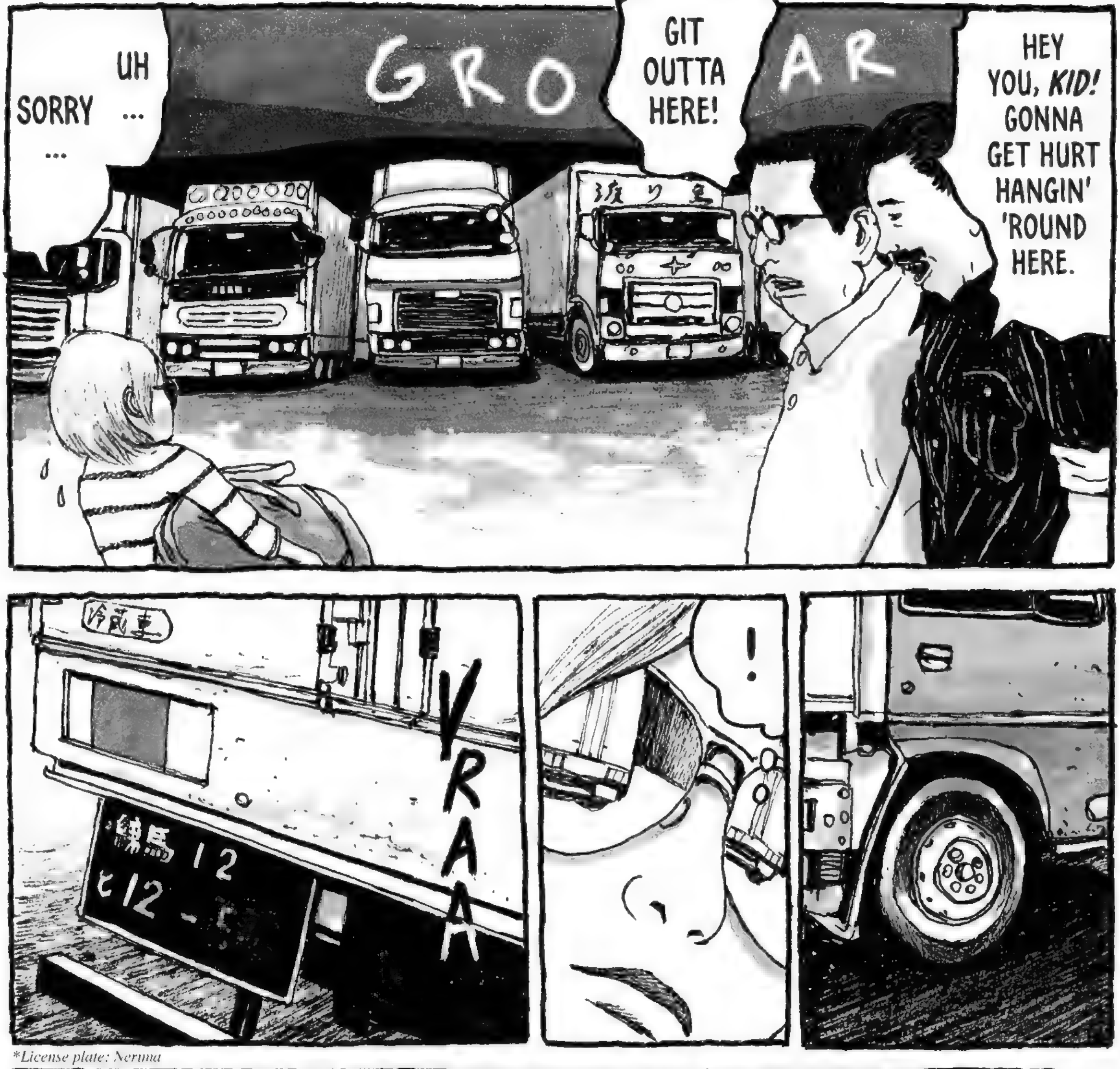
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.
HEY, SEI! WHERE'S HARUO?!
DUNNO.
ISN'T HE IN THE SUNNY?
GEEZ, SHUT UP...
I'M ASKIN' 'CAUSE HE AIN'T IN THE SUNNY!
DUM-MY.
THEN I GUESS I DON'T KNOW.
HE PUT LOTSA CANDY IN HIS BACKPACK, AND WHEN I ASKED HIM FOR SOME...
...HE SAID IT WAS HIS PRO-VISIONS!
WHATTA MISER!
...
GEEZ, I CAN'T EVEN CONCENTRATE! GO AWAY, JUN!

ICCHOME, ICCHOME. ♪
WOW!!
JUS' IGNORE HIM, SEI.
...
WHATSA MATTER?
?
...
Icchome, Icchome. ♪
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.

HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.

MM-HMM?
gaa
I SAW IT!
IT'S THE TRUTH. HE PUT ALL THAT CANDY INTO HIS BACK-PACK.
OH MY, THAT'S NO GOOD.
OH MAN, HE MUSTA STOLE ALL THAT STUFF FROM THE TAKAHASHI STORE! HARUO'S *ALWAYS STEALING* STUFF THERE!
...
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

VROOM
姫路 15
け 2-34
HIMEJI.
O
大阪 1
13-
OSAKA...
静岡 40
け・・・4
SHI-
ZUOKA
...
CHOMP
FRESH FREIGH
トキタ運送
VRRRM
...
Huh?



*License plate: Nerima

*Truck: Fresh Seafood Transport

SEI?!
HUFF
HUFF
OVER HERE! QUICK!!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!
IT'S NIGHTTIME ALREADY.
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
HURRY UP, THE DRIVER WENT TO THE BATHROOM!
I'M GOING WITH YOU.
SEI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THIS ONE'S NORTHWARD BOUND.
huff
huff

WE'RE GONNA ESCAPE *TOGETHER.*
SEI ...
...
SEEN SEI ANY-WHERE, MEGUMU?
HE SAID HE WAS GOIN' TO THE TOILET...
BUT HE NEVER CAME BACK.
HMM, MAYBE HE GOT A TUMMY ACHE?

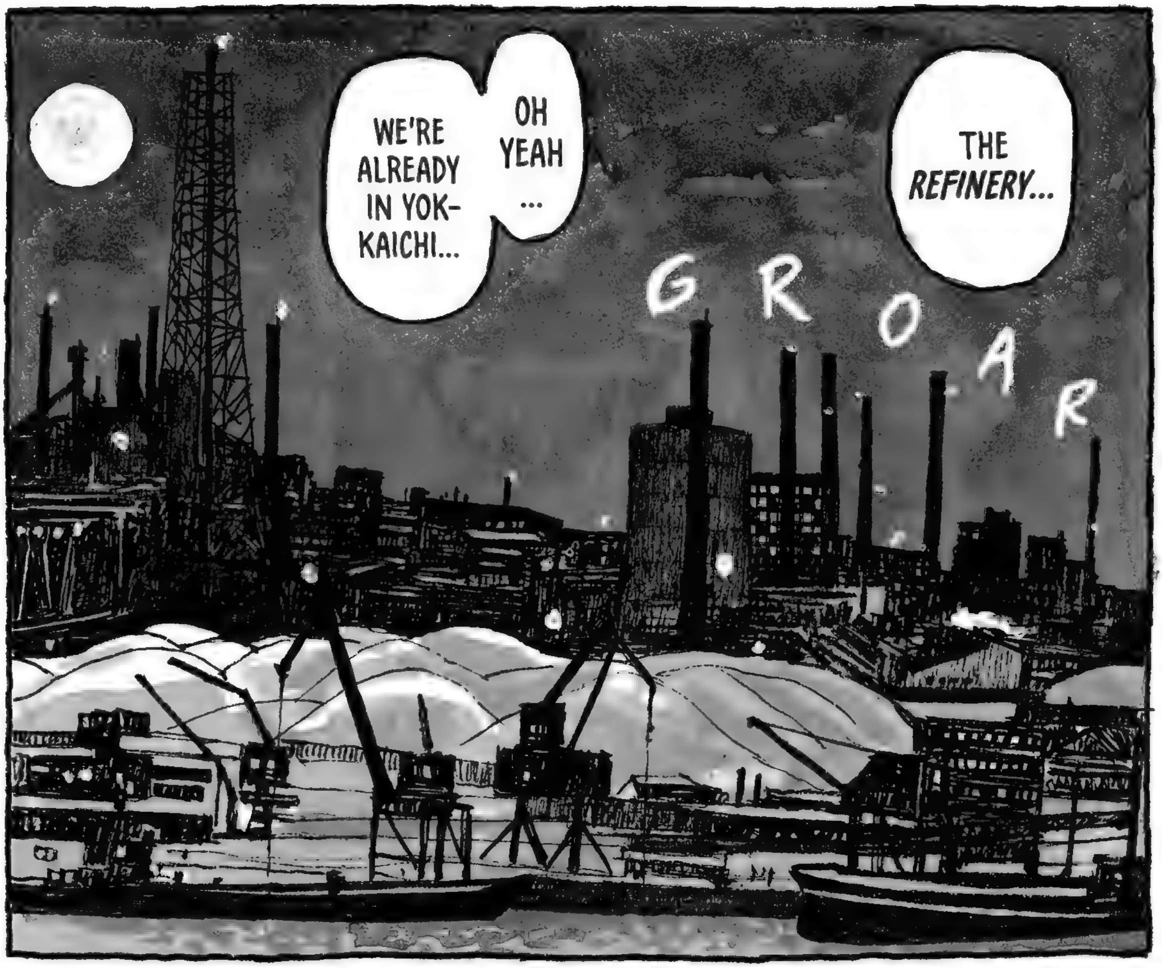
OKAY, HERE GOES.
WATCH OUT FOR MOUSE-TRAPS!
OKAY!
SCUFF SCUFF
KA-CHUNK
HE'S BACK!
SHH.
BAM
THRAKA KAK KAK
BAROOM BAROOM
W

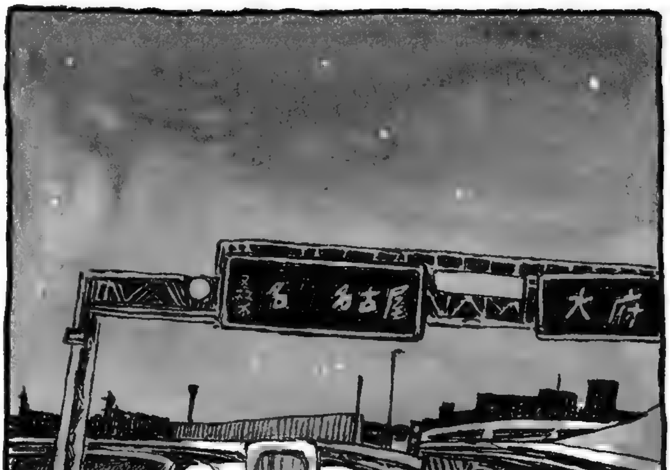
*Boxes: Nakamura Rubber Factory

GWOOO
FWSH
FWSH

OH YEAH!
OH...
RSTL RSTL
YEAH...
GWOOOOO
ADACHI'S PROB'LY GOIN' CRAZY RIGHT NOW...
CHMP
meiji milk chocolate
SNAP
VRAA
I'LL SPLIT MY *PROVISIONS* WITH YOU!
THANKS.

MUKA
KTUNK
KTUNK KTUNK
GWOOOOO
KTUNK
KTUNK
...
KTUNK
LIKE IF I SAW HER NOW I MIGHT NOT EVEN RECOGNIZE HER...
KTUNK
CAN'T REMEMBER MY MOM'S FACE VERY WELL.
SEI, LOOK!
VRAAA



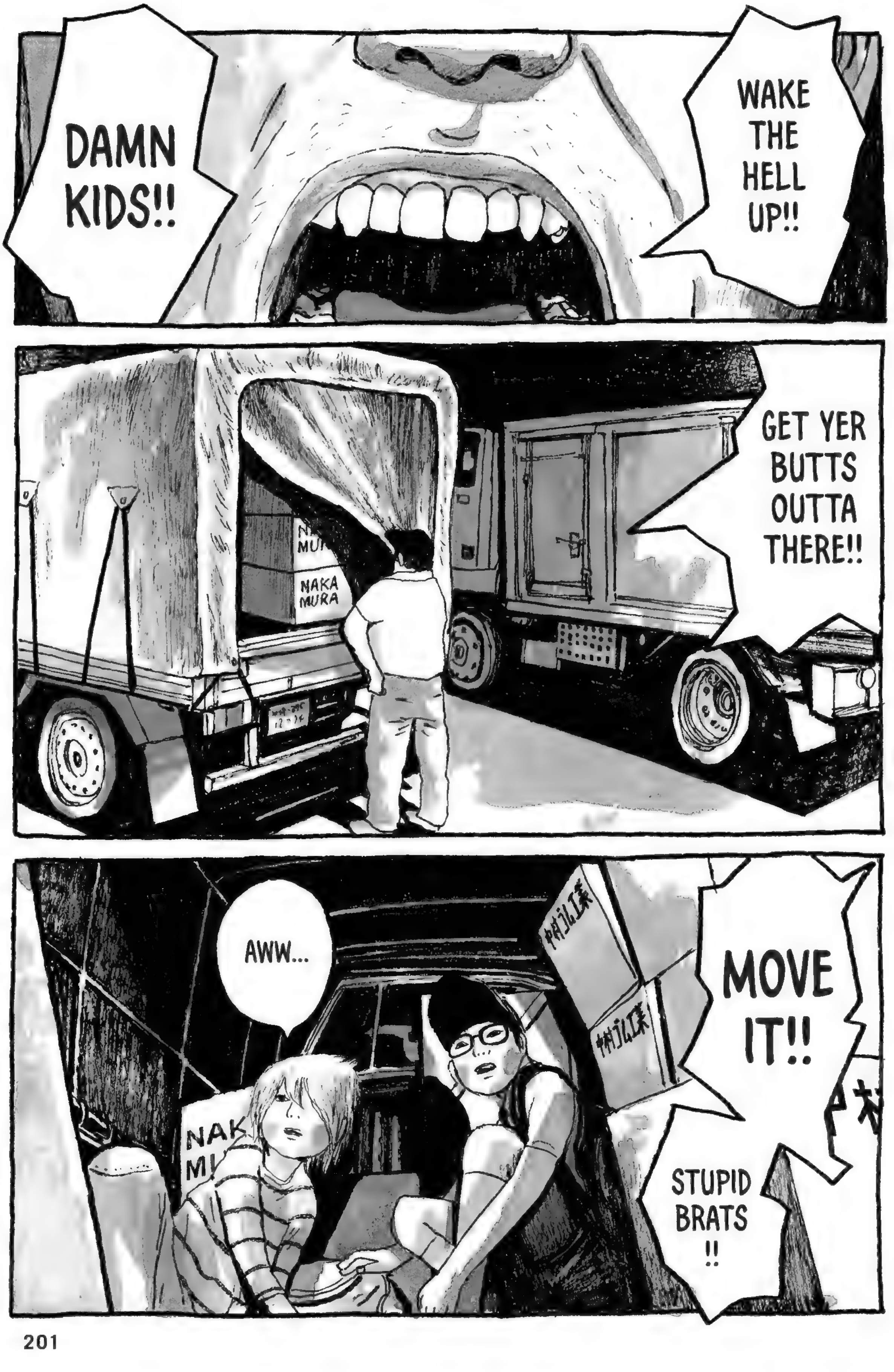


**Signs: Nagoya (left), Obu (right)*

JINGLE
JINGLE
HOME AGAIN!
OH MY, HARUO, WELCOME BACK.
HOME AGAIN, KYOKO!

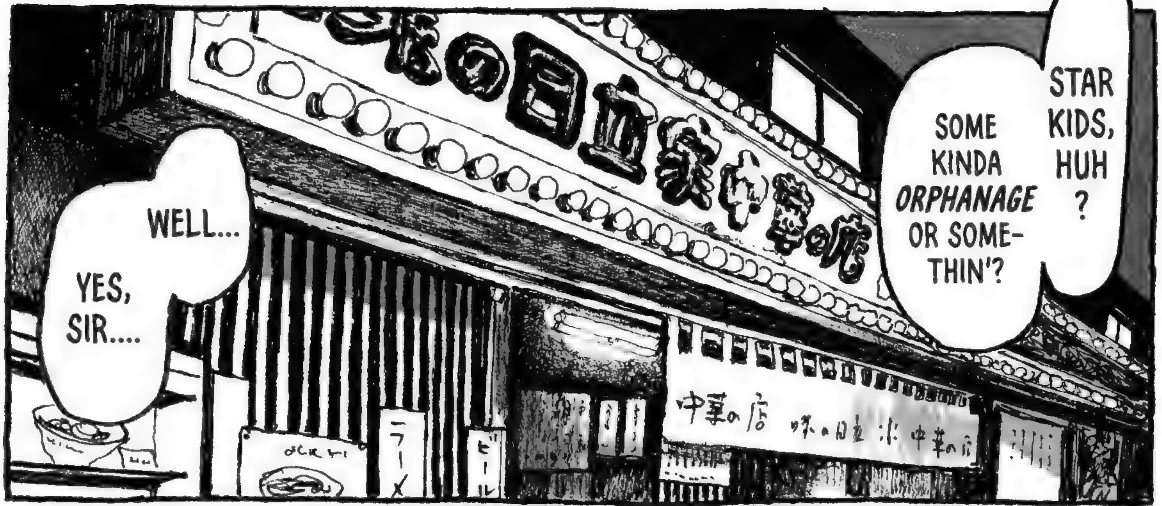
ALL RIGHT THEN, PER-HAPS YOU TWO SHOULD SHARE THE ROOM WITH HARUO'S FATHER.
HELLO, SEI.
HELLO, MA'AM ...
HEY, COULD MY FRIEND STAY OVER WITH US? HIS NAME'S SEI.
DAD!!
HEY, HARUO. YOUR HAIR'S WHITE AGAIN.
DAD'S HERE?
WHAT ?!
TWO NIGHTS? THREE?
HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA STAY HERE WITH US?

THAT'S RIGHT.
WE'LL ALWAYS BE TO-GETHER.
DON'T BE SILLY.
WE'LL BE LIVING *TOGETHER* FROM NOW ON, WON'T WE?
WHAT?!
TEE HEE HEE ...
HA HA HA ...
OH YEAH!
HA HA HA ...
SOME-ONE'S COMING.
OH YEAH! LIVIN' TOGETHER, THE THREE OF US!!
HEY, HARUO.
HEY, HARUO.
HEY...
HEY YOU!!

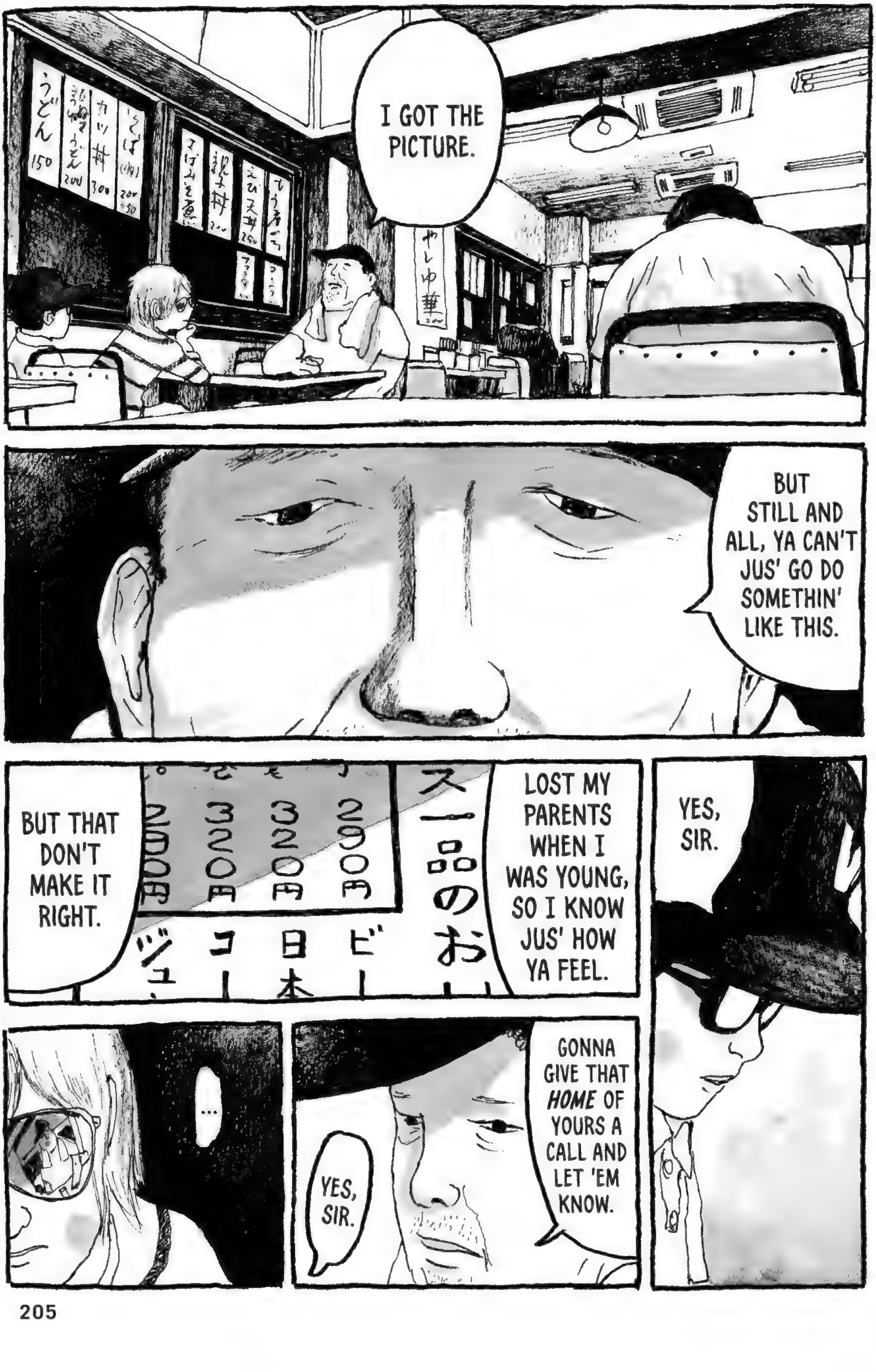

DAMN KIDS!!
WAKE THE HELL UP!!
GET YER BUTTS OUTTA THERE!!
NAKA MURA
AWW...
MOVE IT!!
STUPID BRATS !!

WHAT THE HELL DIDJA THINK YOU WERE DOIN'...
FZZT
PHOO ...
YOU KIDS PLAYIN' TRICKS ON ME? DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT, BUSTERS!
CLATTER
... SORRY ...
...
カレーライス 200
ラーメン 200
SO JUST KEEP GOIN', EVEN THOUGH IT'S GETTIN' LATE AND YOU'RE PROB'LY GETTIN' DROWZY. ♫
♪
YOUR PAL FOR THE EVENING, JOINING YOU ON THIS MIDNIGHT VOYAGE! ♪
mazda

THAT'S SOME CARGO YA GOT THERE, GEN!
TELL ME ABOUT IT!
CAN'T TURN MY BACK ON THESE TWO, Y'KNOW!
I TELL YA, IF THESE WERE MY KIDS, I'D GIVE 'EM SUCH A WHUPPIN'!
HEH ...
TIK
TIK
NOW WE GO TO LISTENER MAIL.
THE FIRST ONE'S FROM MR. TERAMOTO OF NAGOYA.
THANKS, DELICIOUS.
ARE YOU KIDS, UHH...
BROTHERS?
NAH.
NO... UH... FRIENDS, SIR.
YOU. WHAT'S THAT ACCENT?
WHERE YA FROM?
UH... YOKOHAMA, SIR.
BUT, WELL, NOW... I'M AT STAR KIDS HOME...IN MIE PREFECTURE...

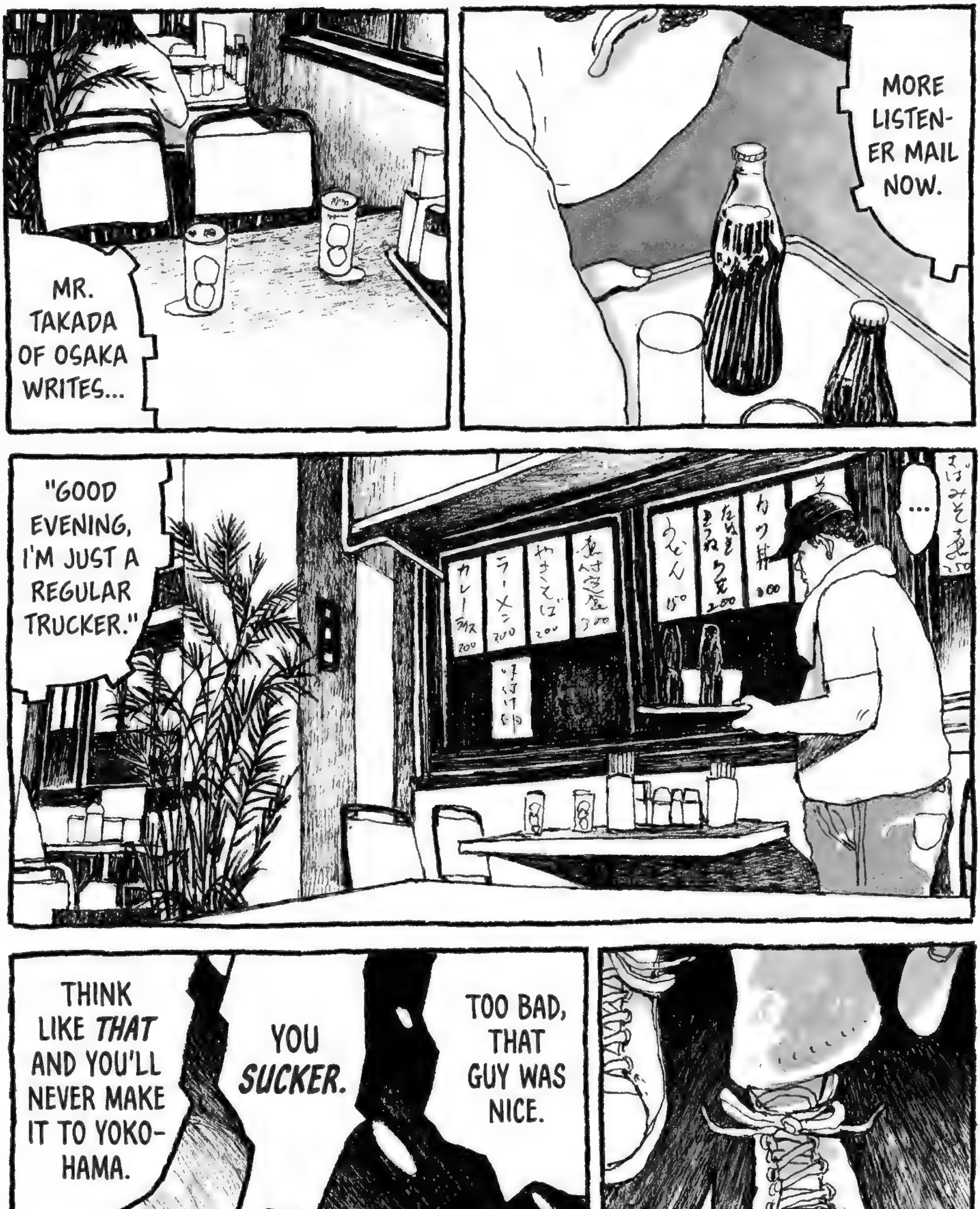


*Sign: Hitachi's Chinese Restaurant


I GOT THE PICTURE.
BUT STILL AND ALL, YA CAN'T JUS' GO DO SOMETHIN' LIKE THIS.
LOST MY PARENTS WHEN I WAS YOUNG, SO I KNOW JUS' HOW YA FEEL.
BUT THAT DON'T MAKE IT RIGHT.
YES, SIR.
GONNA GIVE THAT *HOME* OF YOURS A CALL AND LET 'EM KNOW.
YES, SIR.
...

*1976 hit ballad from the popular enka singer

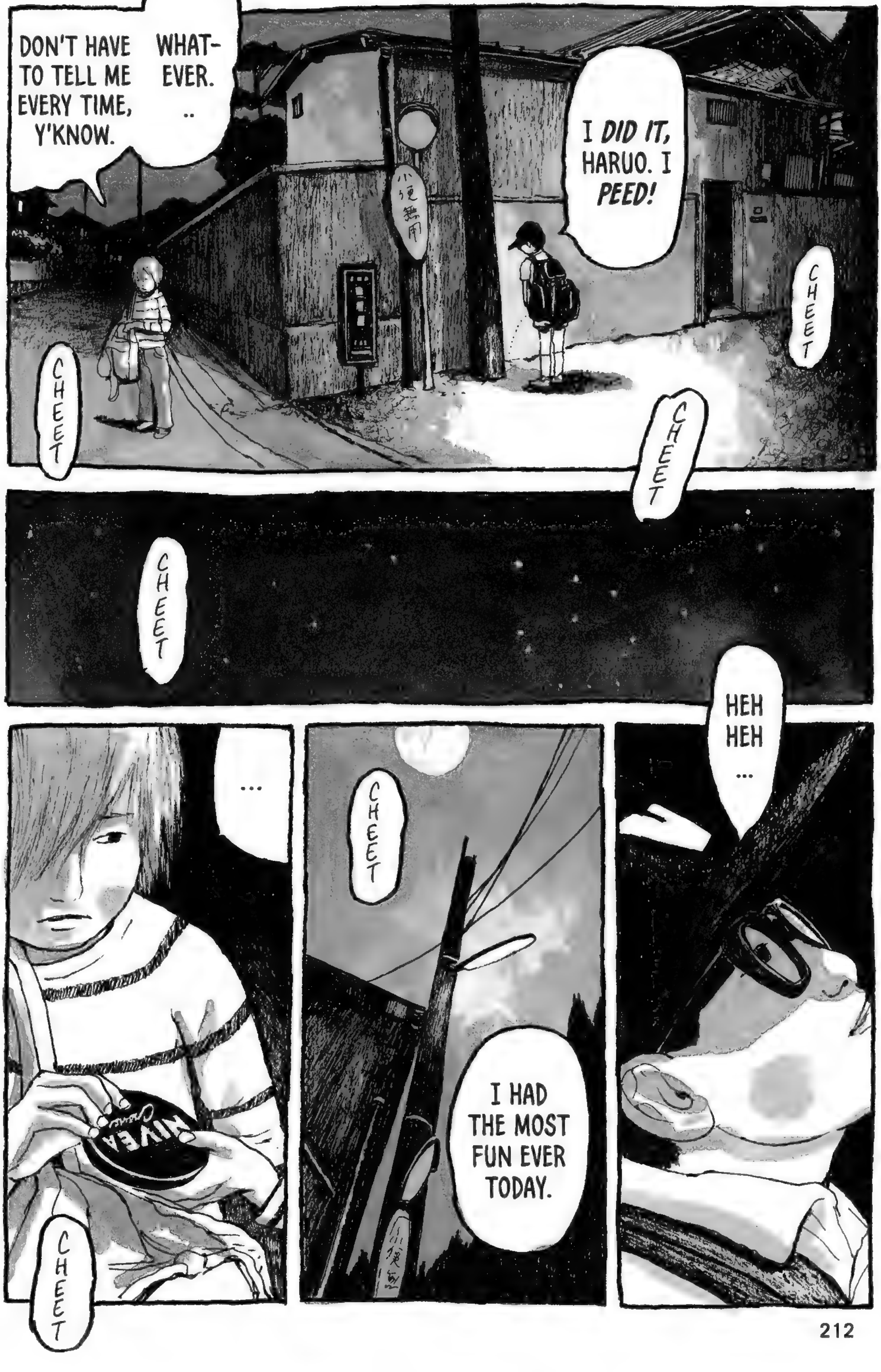
HOW ARE YOU DARLING? ♪
GETTING COLDER DAY BY DAY. ♪
SITTING HERE IN THE COLD, KNITTING YOU A SWEATER YOU'LL NEVER WEAR
MY WOMAN'S HEART CAN'T LET GO OF YOU
I MISS YOU SO, FROM A NORTHERN INN


MORE LISTENER MAIL NOW.
MR. TAKADA OF OSAKA WRITES...
"GOOD EVENING, I'M JUST A REGULAR TRUCKER."
...
THAT WAS *CLOSE.*
TOO BAD, THAT GUY WAS NICE.
YOU *SUCKER.*
THINK LIKE *THAT* AND YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT TO YOKOHAMA.

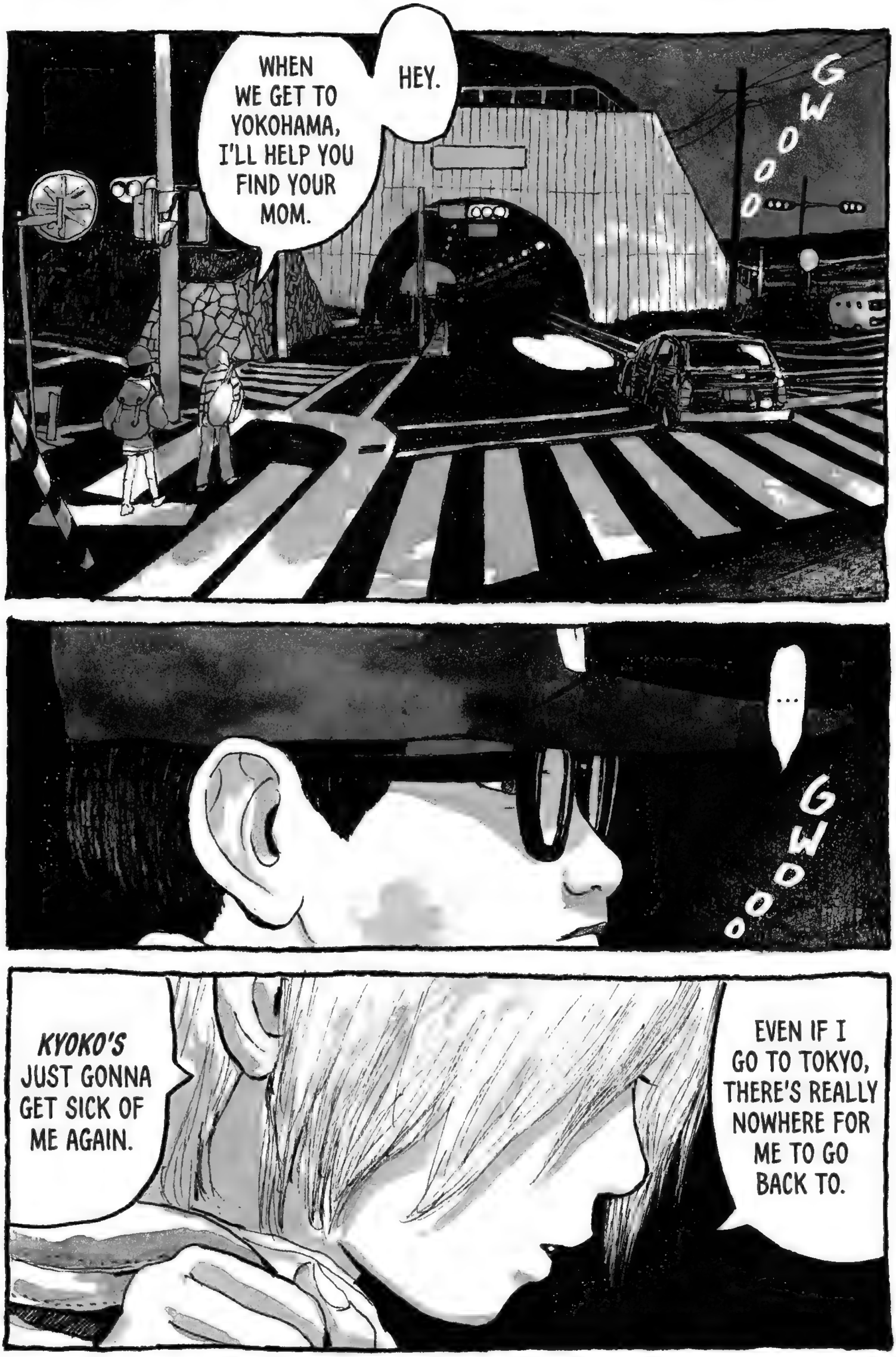
WONDER WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE *COLA*...
WHO CARES!!
VRAAAA
SHUNKA SHUNKA

WHOA, A CASTLE...
HOTEL
ロマンス
MY FOOT HURTS. I GOT A BLISTER ON MY HEEL.
OOOOG
WHAT NOW?
GONNA PUT A BAND-AID ON IT.
RSTL RSTL
YEAH, WHATEVER. WE JUS' GOTTA FIND ANOTHER TRUCK SOME-WHERE.
HEY, HARUO ...
ANY IDEA WHERE WE ARE?
MAYBE...
IT SAID OKAZAKI BACK THERE, SO I THINK WE'RE SOMEWHERE BETWEEN NAGOYA AND TOYOHASHI.

I REALLY GOTTA PEE...
YOU THINK THERE'S A TOILET AROUND HERE...?
WHAT? WHAT'D YOU SAY?
MAYBE WE CAN GO TO A HOUSE AND BORROW THEIR TOILET...
OH YEAH! I'M SPLITTIN' THE PROVISIONS WITH YOU!
NO WAY! I CAN'T!
I NEVER WENT OUT-DOORS.
JUS' DO IT ANY-WHERE!
500
WHAT? BACK TO NATURE ...?
ME, I DO A BACK TO NATURE DUMP EVERY DAY!!
WHO CARES?!
GROAR


DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME EVERY TIME, Y'KNOW.
WHAT-EVER. ..
I DID IT, HARUO. I PEED!
CHEET
CHEET
CHEET
CHEET
...
CHEET
HEH HEH ...
I HAD THE MOST FUN EVER TODAY.
CHEET

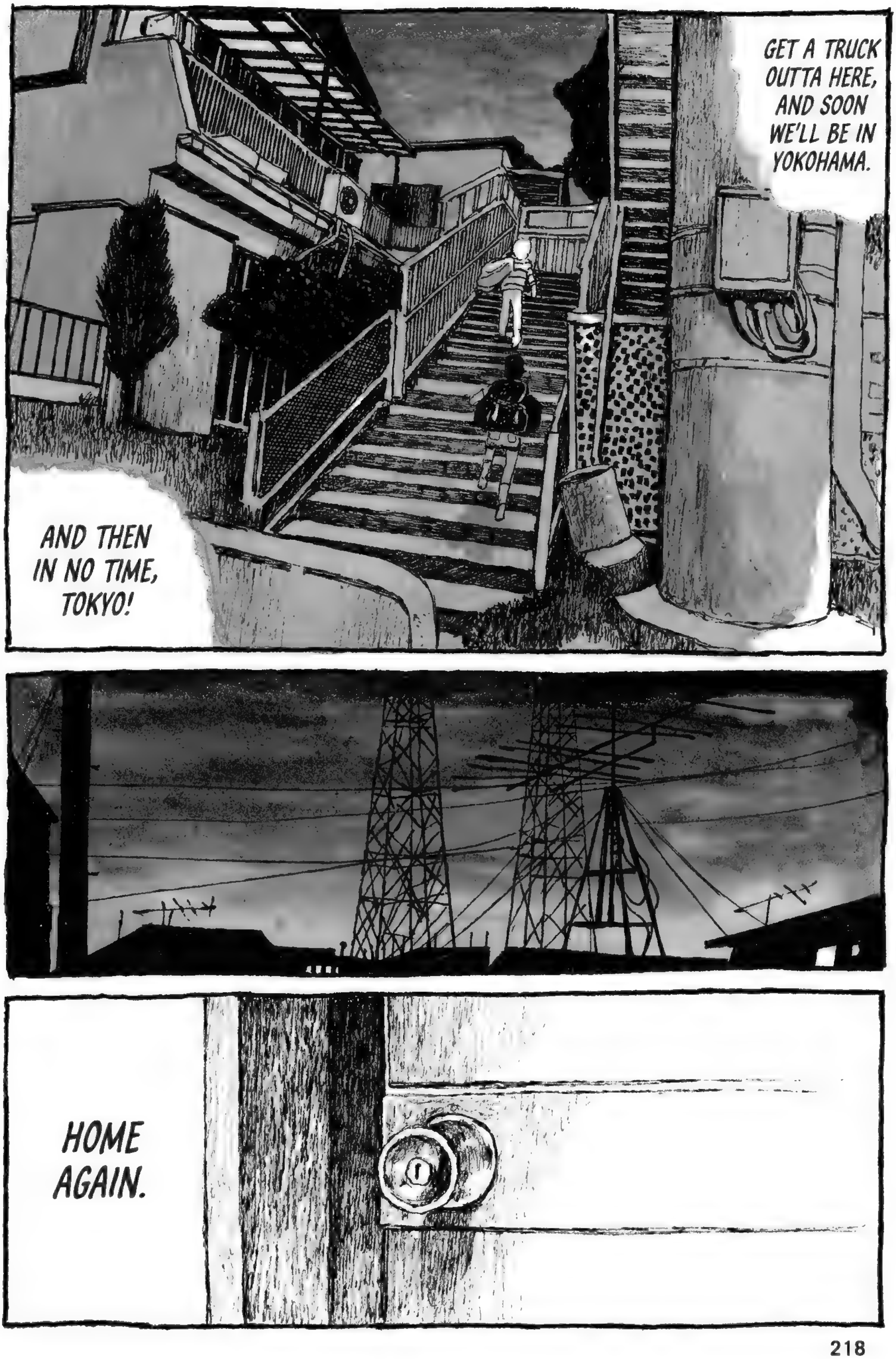
EVER SINCE I STOPPED GETTING LETTERS FROM MY MOM, I'VE BEEN THINKING...
...THAT SOMEDAY I WOULD GO FIND HER.
CHEET
CHEET
CHEET
NIVEA Creme
CHEET
CHK...
CHEET
All done.
CHEET
Slow-poke.


HEY.
WHEN WE GET TO YOKOHAMA, I'LL HELP YOU FIND YOUR MOM.
GWOOOOO
...
GWOOOO
EVEN IF I GO TO TOKYO, THERE'S REALLY NOWHERE FOR ME TO GO BACK TO.
KYOKO'S JUST GONNA GET SICK OF ME AGAIN.

SO I DECIDED TO *STRIKE OUT ON MY OWN!!*
I'M TOUGH, *AIN'T I?!*
SCHOOL'S OUT! GONNA BUILD ME A CABIN IN THE MOUN-TAINS, LIVE OFF THE FAT O' THE LAND!
IF WE CAN'T FIND YOUR MOM, YOU COULD COME LIVE WITH ME!
REALLY?
YOU KIDDIN'?! YEAH!
GONNA SURVIVE OFF CANDY WE STEAL EVERY DAY!
WE'LL CATCH US SOME FISH...
SOUNDS SO FUN.
BZZ...
GONNA BE *AWE-SOME!*
BZZ...

BUT WHEN WE GET TO TOKYO, MAYBE YOUR MOM CAN COME LIVE WITH US TOO.
...
I'M GONNA BEG YOUR MOM TO COME TOO!
I JUST KNOW IT'S GONNA BE OKAY.
...
THINK SO...?
GWOOO
THINK SO...?
HARUO, LOOK.

THE SKY'S STARTING TO GET LIGHT DOWN THERE.
MORNING ALREADY!
TO-TALLY!
WOOSH
ACK!
SORRY.
YOU'RE SUCH A KLUTZ.
TSK!
HAMAMATSU, SHIZUOKA, NUMAZU, ODAWARA...


GET A TRUCK OUTTA HERE, AND SOON WE'LL BE IN YOKOHAMA.
AND THEN IN NO TIME, TOKYO!
HOME AGAIN.

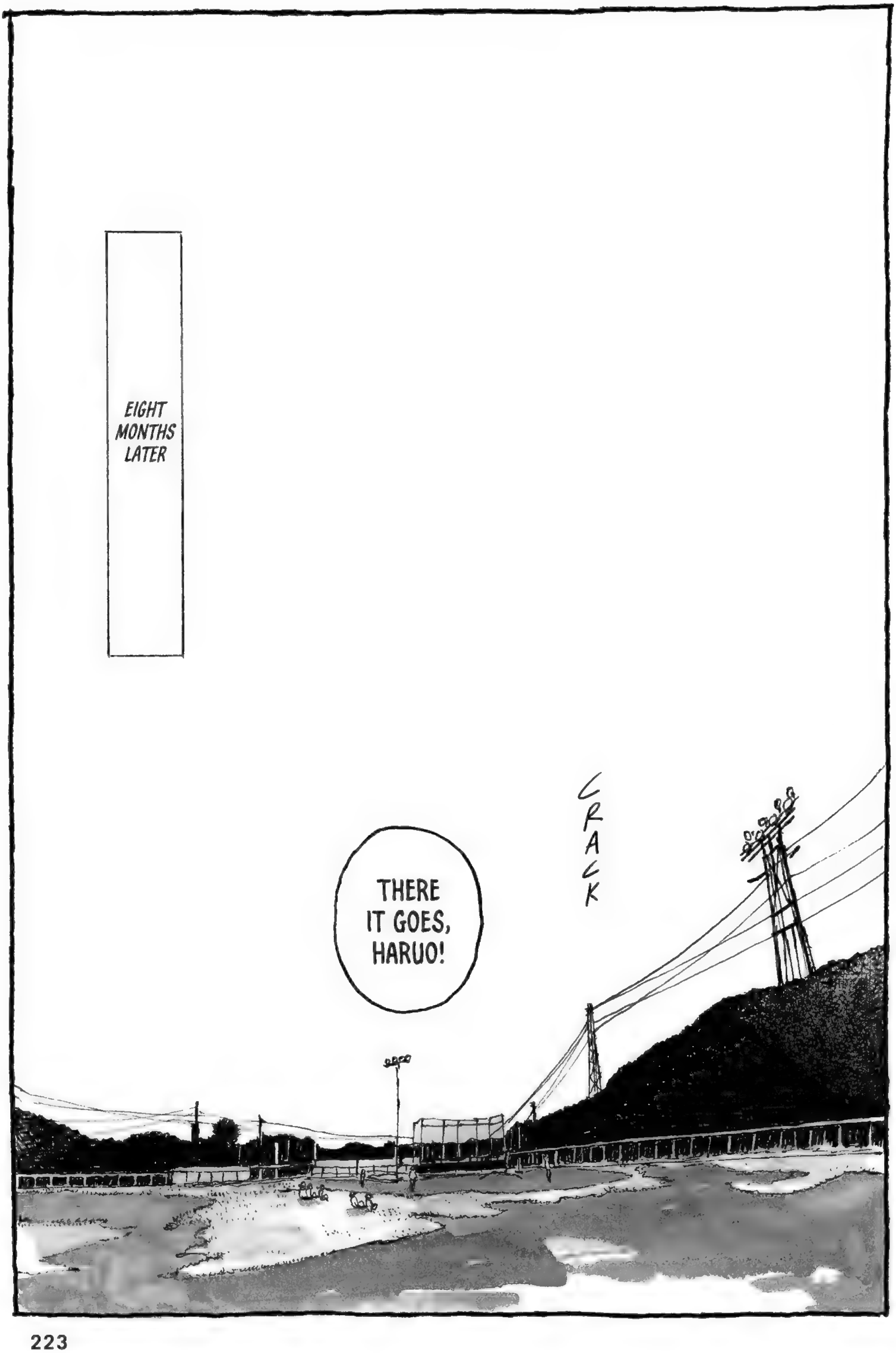
WELCOME BACK...
WELCOME BACK...
HOME AGAIN!
HOME AGAIN!
HOME AGAIN!

WELCOME BACK.

FINAL CHAPTER

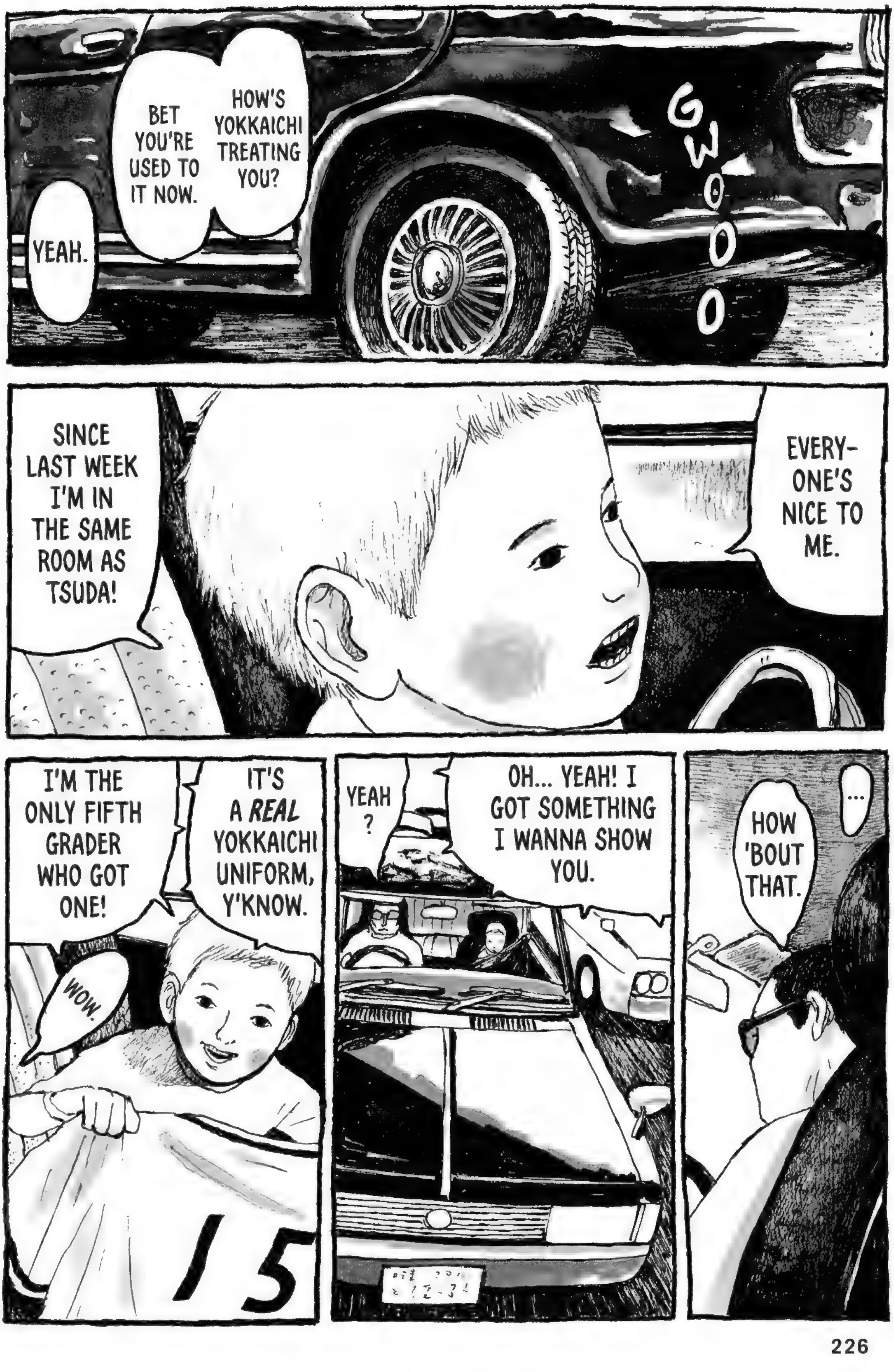
"Rainy now, cloudy later."

"Cloudy now, clear skies later."


EIGHT MONTHS LATER
THERE IT GOES, HARUO!
CRACK

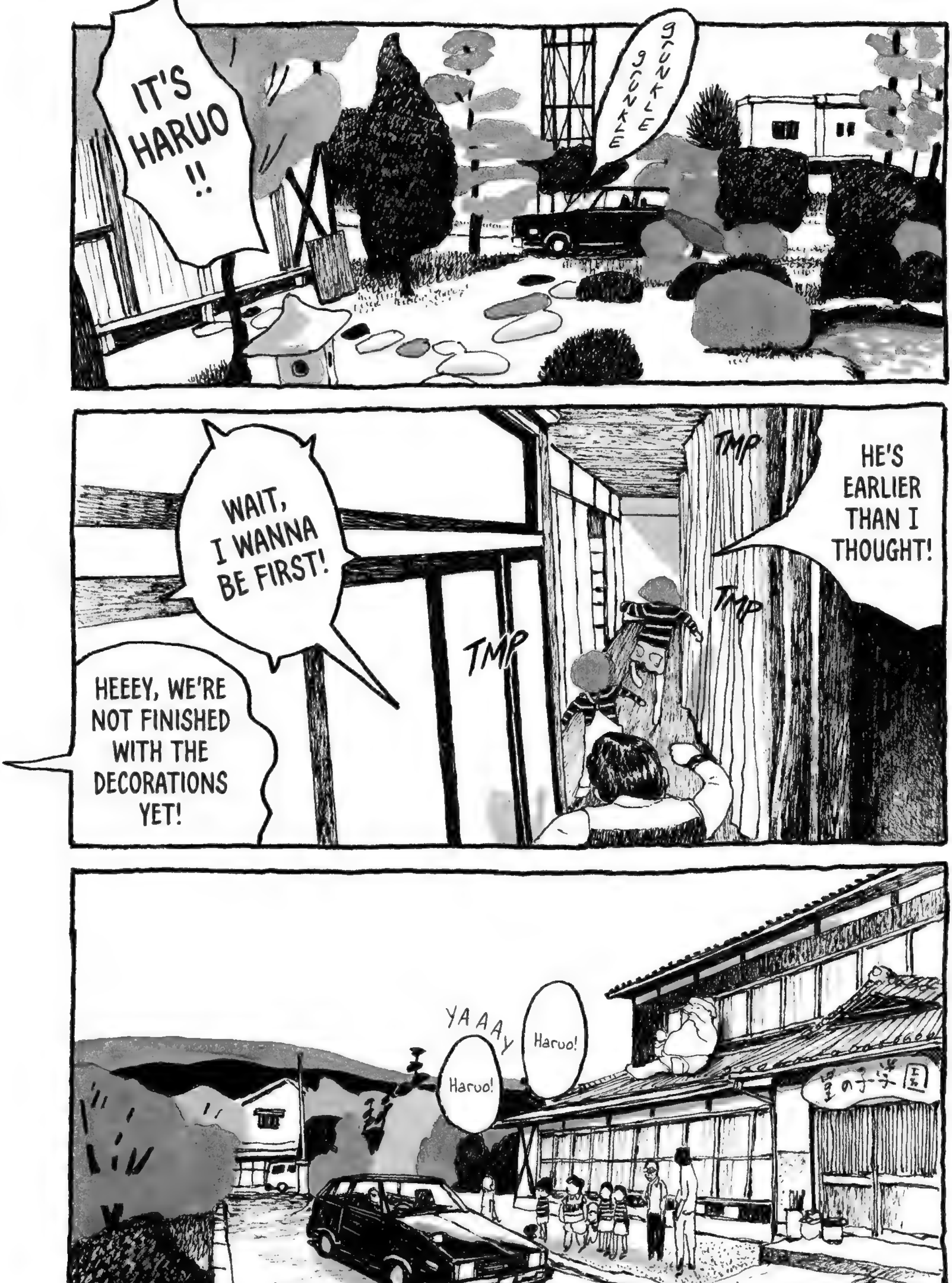
*Jersey: Yokkaichi

SAFE!
YESSS!
SKIDD
WHAT KINDA CALL WAS THAT?!
TSUDA WAS OFF BASE WHEN I CAUGHT THAT!
SHUT UP!
I *SAW* YOU CATCH IT AND *THEN* STARTED RUNNIN'.
DUMB-ASS!!
OH NO, YOU DIDN'T!
I SAW YOU GO WITH MY OWN EYES.
C'MON, QUIT IT.
HEY, HARUO.
MR. ADACHI'S HERE FROM STAR KIDS HOME.
THAT'S ENOUGH TODAY, HARUO.


HOW'S YOKKAICHI TREATING YOU?
BET YOU'RE USED TO IT NOW.
YEAH.
GWOOO
EVERY-ONE'S NICE TO ME.
SINCE LAST WEEK I'M IN THE SAME ROOM AS TSUDA!
IT'S A *REAL* YOKKAICHI UNIFORM, Y'KNOW.
I'M THE ONLY FIFTH GRADER WHO GOT ONE!
WOW.
15
OH... YEAH! I GOT SOMETHING I WANNA SHOW YOU.
YEAH ?
...
HOW 'BOUT THAT.

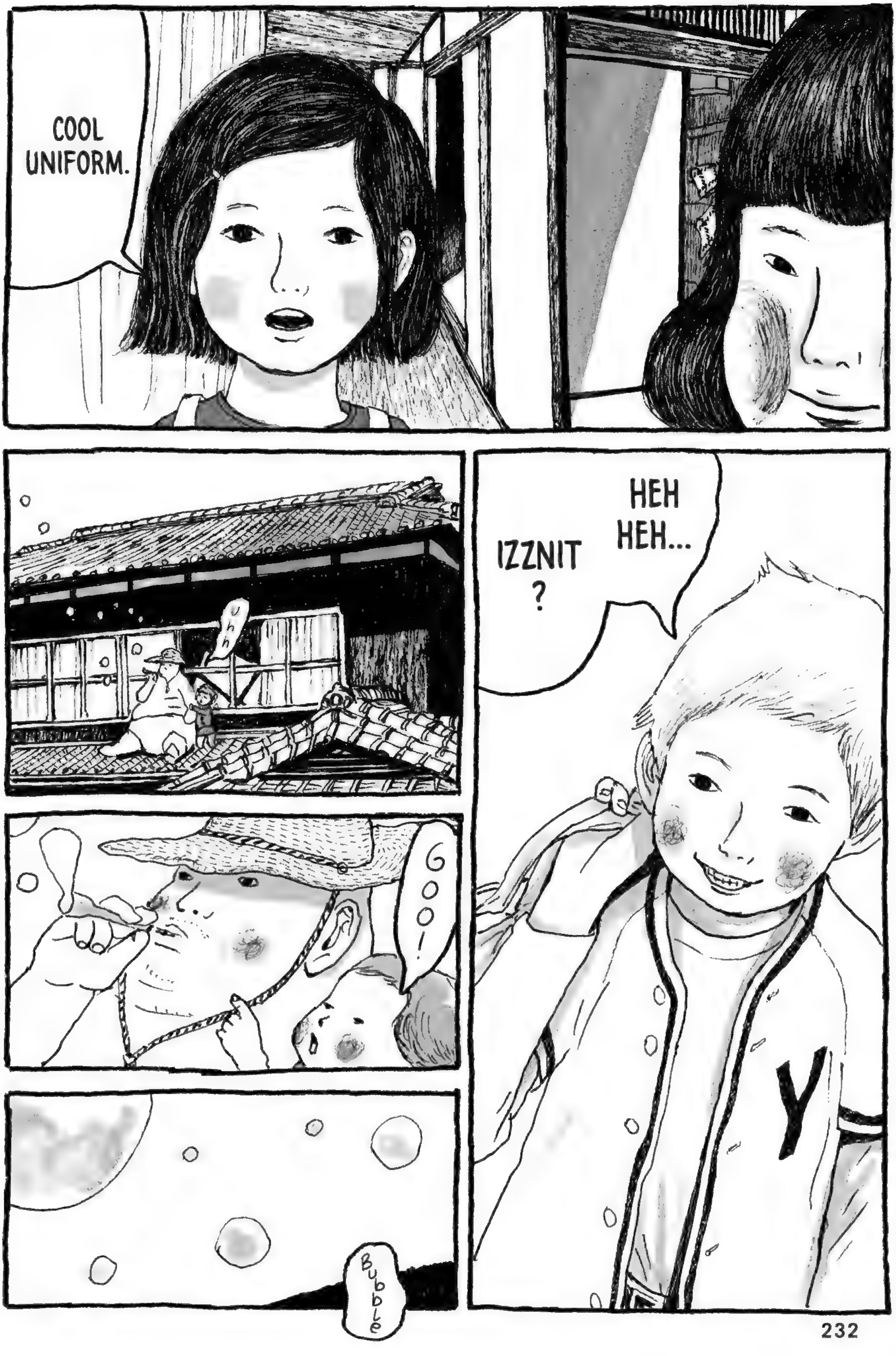
AMAZING... YOU'RE *SO* INTO BASEBALL.
YEAH I AM!
I'M SHOOTIN' FOR A SPOT ON THE GIANTS, Y'KNOW, HA HA...
WANNA PLAY CATCH LATER?
REALLY ?!
YESSS!
ARE MEGUMU'S AUNT AND UNCLE ALREADY THERE?
WELL ...
SOMETHING CAME UP, SO THEY WON'T BE AT THE *GOING-AWAY* PARTY.
THEY'RE TAKIN' AN AIRPLANE FROM HOKKAIDO, RIGHT?
YEP.
FROM HAKO-DATE AIR-PORT.

SEEMS IT'S TOO COLD TO PUT AWAY THE HEATING STOVES SO THEY COULDN'T COME YET.
HRM.
VROOOM
HEY!

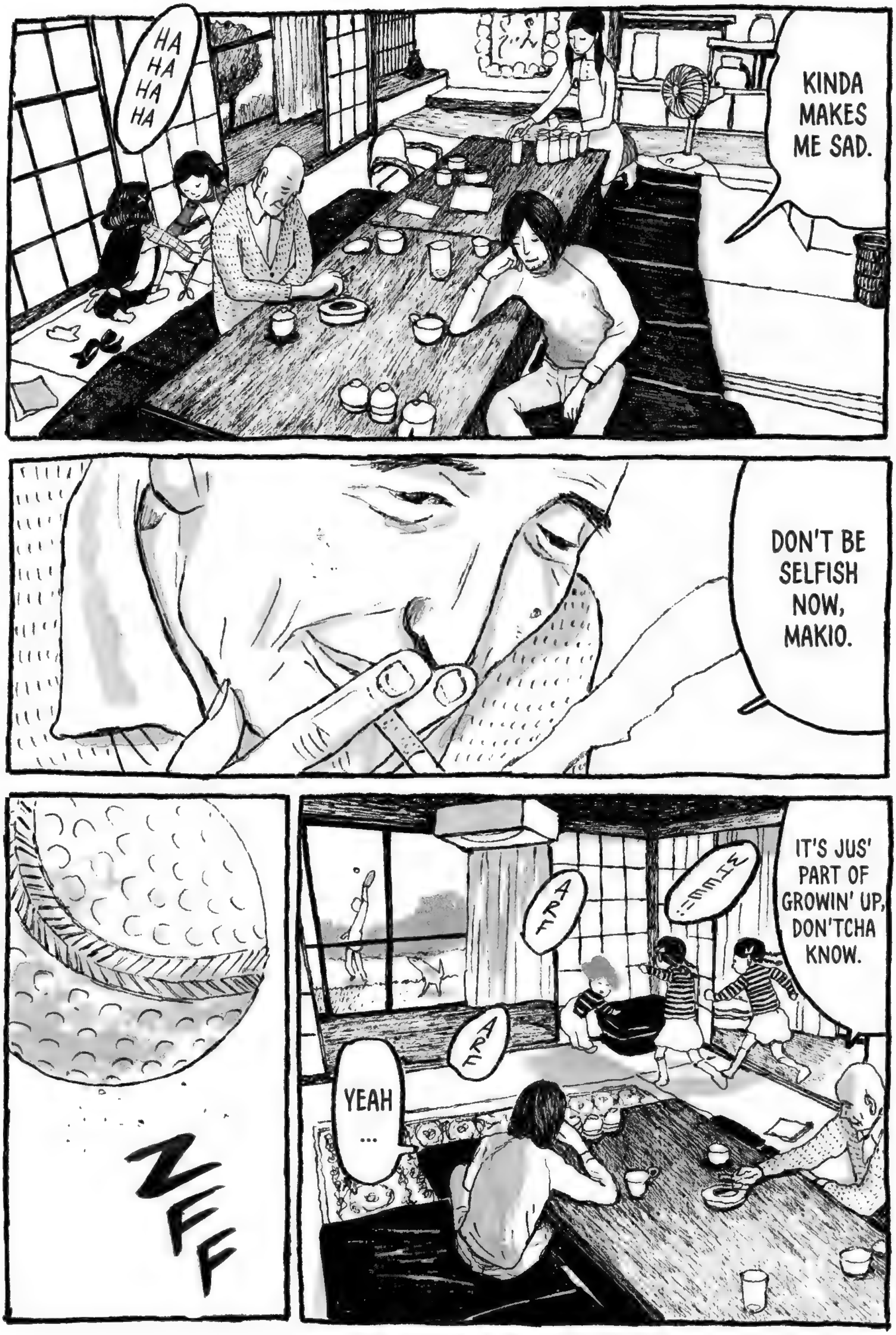

IT'S HARUO!!
grunkle grunkle
WAIT, I WANNA BE FIRST!
HE'S EARLIER THAN I THOUGHT!
TMP
TMP
TMP
HEEEY, WE'RE NOT FINISHED WITH THE DECORATIONS YET!
YAAAAy
Haruo!
Haruo!
星の子学園

NOW DON'T Y'ALL BE COMIN' OUTSIDE! WE GOTTA GET READY SO BE SURE TO PITCH IN!
YA KIDDIN'?
NO WAY, DUMMY.
HAVEN'T SEEN YA SINCE THE MOCHI POUNDING AT NEW YEAR'S!
GOT ANY PRESENTS?
Did you get taller?
Jus' a little...
SOME HAIRCUT YA GOT THERE, HARUO.
LOOKS GOOD ON YA.
HEY, MAKIO!
HOW YA DOIN'?!
...
OH YEAH!
MAKIO, CHECK THIS OUT!
I'M THE ONLY FIFTH GRADER WHO GOT A *FIRST TEAM* UNIFORM!
Baseball...
THEY CAN ONLY MAKE *15* OF 'EM!
Cool!
15

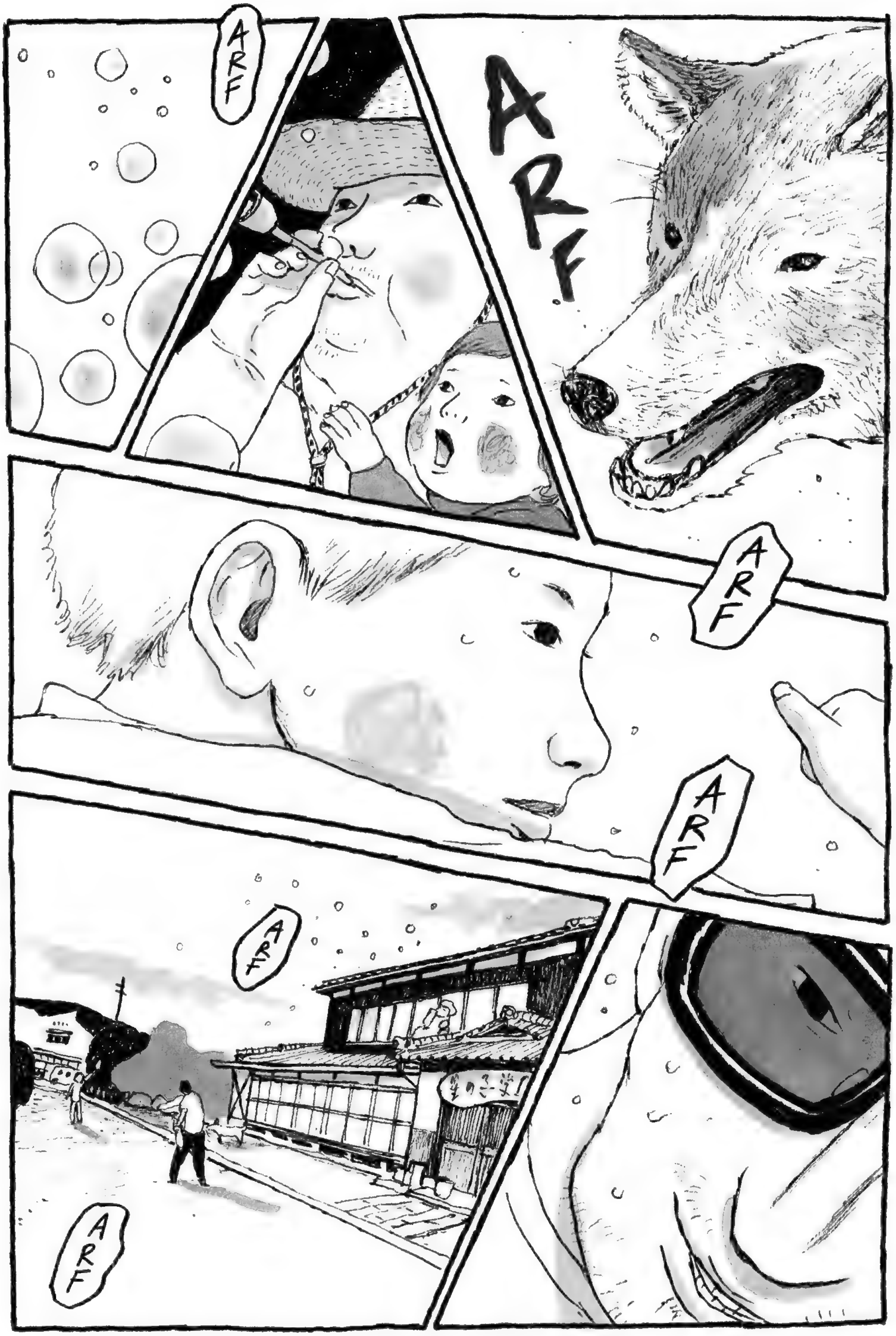
WOW!
PUT IT ON AND SHOW US.
HEY YOU GUYS!
SURE!
ARF
WE'RE GONNA SHRIVEL UP AN' DIE BEFORE THE GOING-AWAY PARTY IF YOU DON'T GET IN HERE!
HEY, KIKO! HOW YA DOIN'?
CAN I HELP OUT?
NUH-UH, NO WAY.
YOU'RE A *GUEST,* SO START ACTIN' LIKE ONE!
OH... *HARUO*.

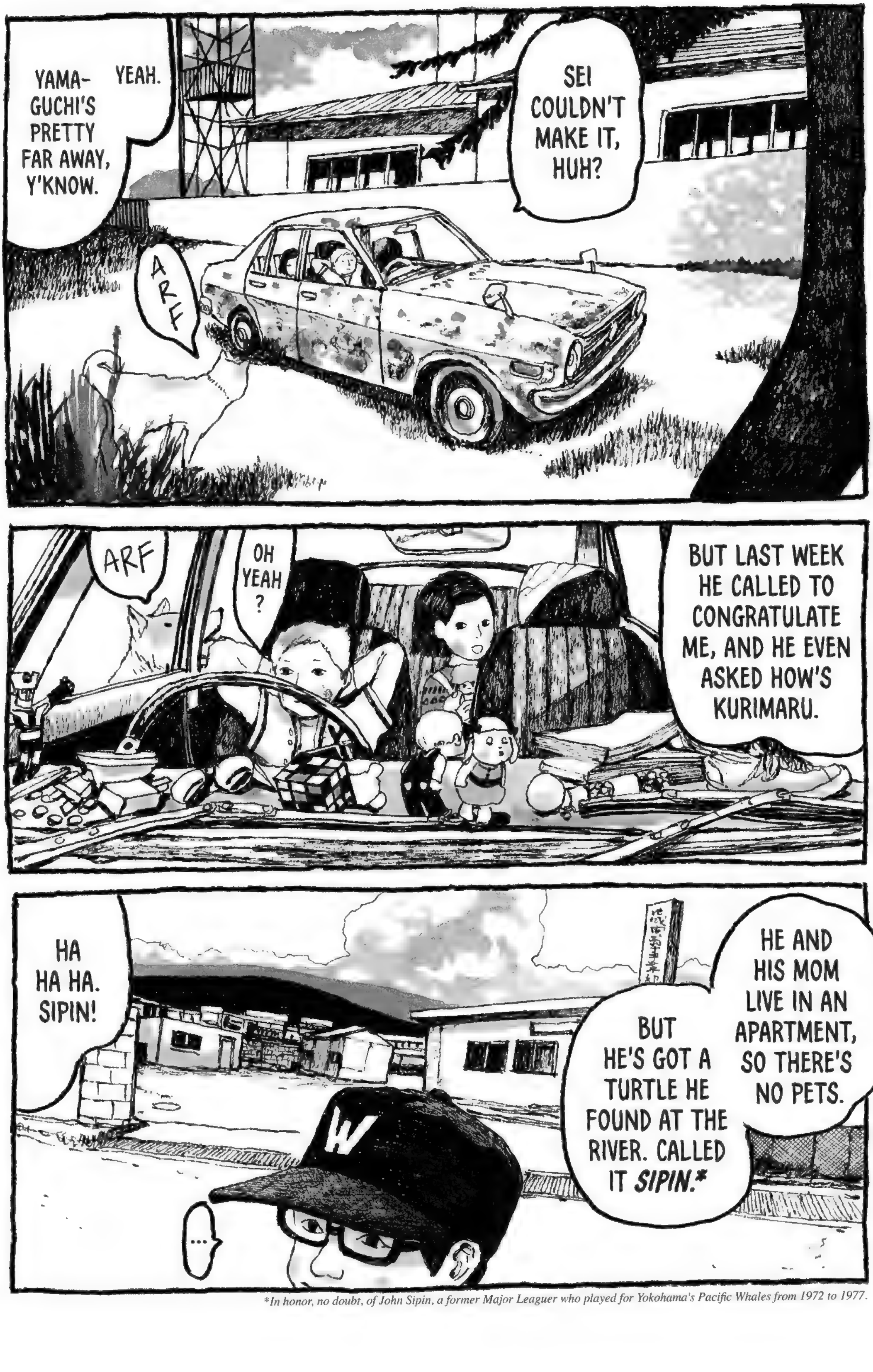

COOL UNIFORM.
Uhh
IZZNIT ?
HEH HEH...
GOOO!
Bubble

HERE COMES MY *CURVE*!
ARF
ARF
ARF
SCHA
I TWIST MY FINGERS WHEN I THROW IT.
ISN'T THAT SOME-THIN'.
ARF
BANF
WOW, IT SURE DID CURVE!
ARF
ARF
HE'S SO *DIFFERENT*.
This'll drop!


HA HA HA HA HA
KINDA MAKES ME SAD.
DON'T BE SELFISH NOW, MAKIO.
ZFF
IT'S JUS' PART OF GROWIN' UP, DON'TCHA KNOW.
WHEEE!!
ARF
ARF
YEAH ...

BANF
BANF
ARF
ARF
ARF
ARF


ARF
ARF
ARF
ARF
ARF
ARF



In honor, no doubt, of John Sipin, a former Major Leaguer who played for Yokohama's Pacific Whales from 1972 to 1977.

See you tomorrow.
See you later.
See you soon.
HELLO, SEI.
HOW WAS WORK?
OH MY.
YOU SAID YOU'D FINISH EARLY TODAY...
...SO I WAITED.
WHY, THANK YOU.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE FOR DINNER?
MMM ...
ANYTHING! I LIKE *ALL* YOUR COOKING, MOM!
WHERE'S YAMA-GUCHI?
IT'S ALL THE WAY DOWN AT THE END OF HONSHŪ.
I LOOKED IT UP ON A MAP.
HE SAID IT'S REALLY HARD 'CAUSE THE ACCENT'S DIFFERENT *AGAIN*...
HMPH.
AT LEAST HE GETS TO LIVE WITH HIS *MOM*.
ARF

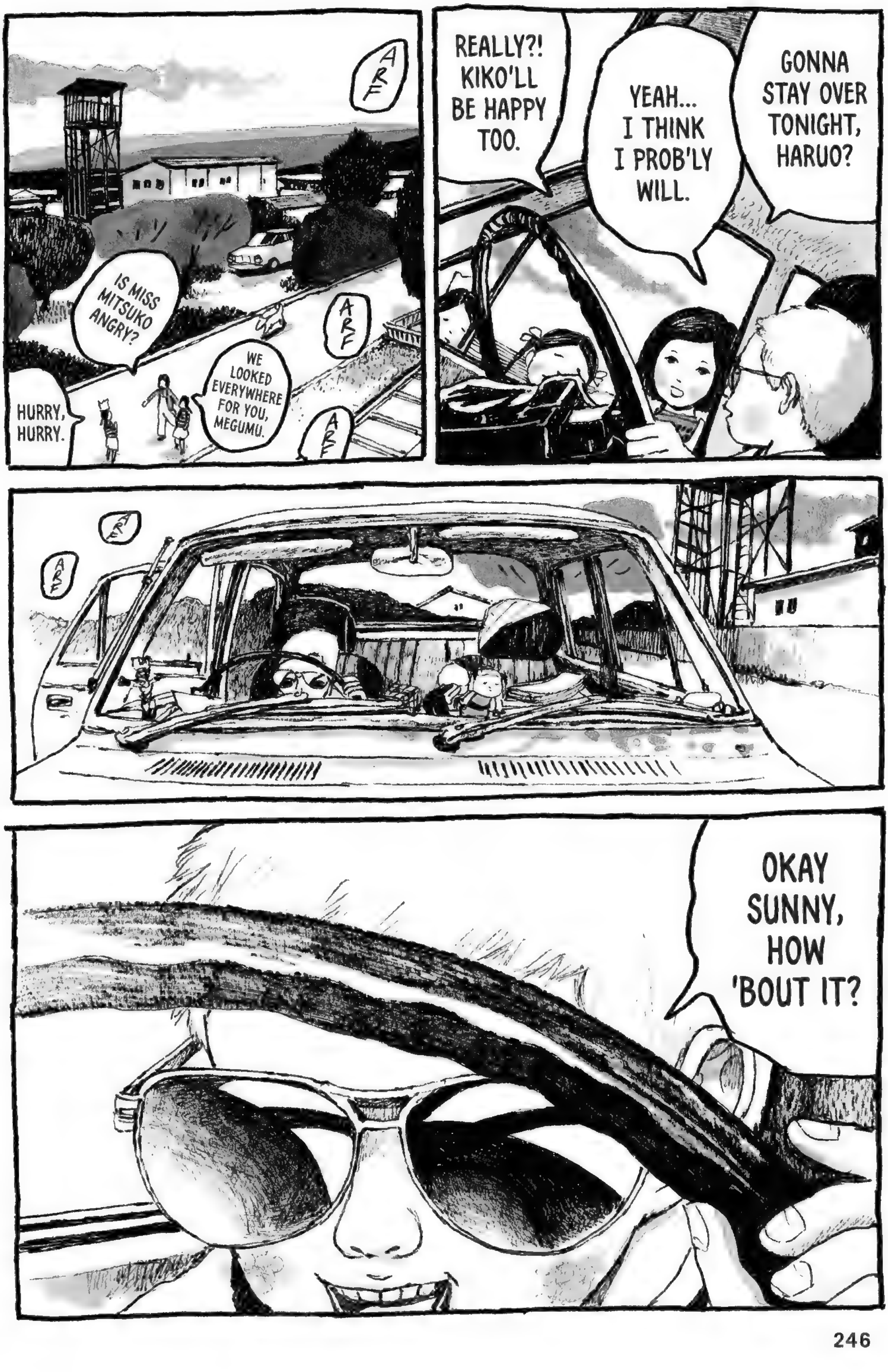
HE WAS ALWAYS WAITING FOR LETTERS FROM HER, Y'KNOW.
YEAH...
ARF
C'MON IN, KURIMARU!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
KACHUNK
DANG, THE SUNNY'S REALLY A MESS, HUH?
Y'KNOW WHAT? IT'S GOIN' TO THE JUNKYARD NEXT MONTH.

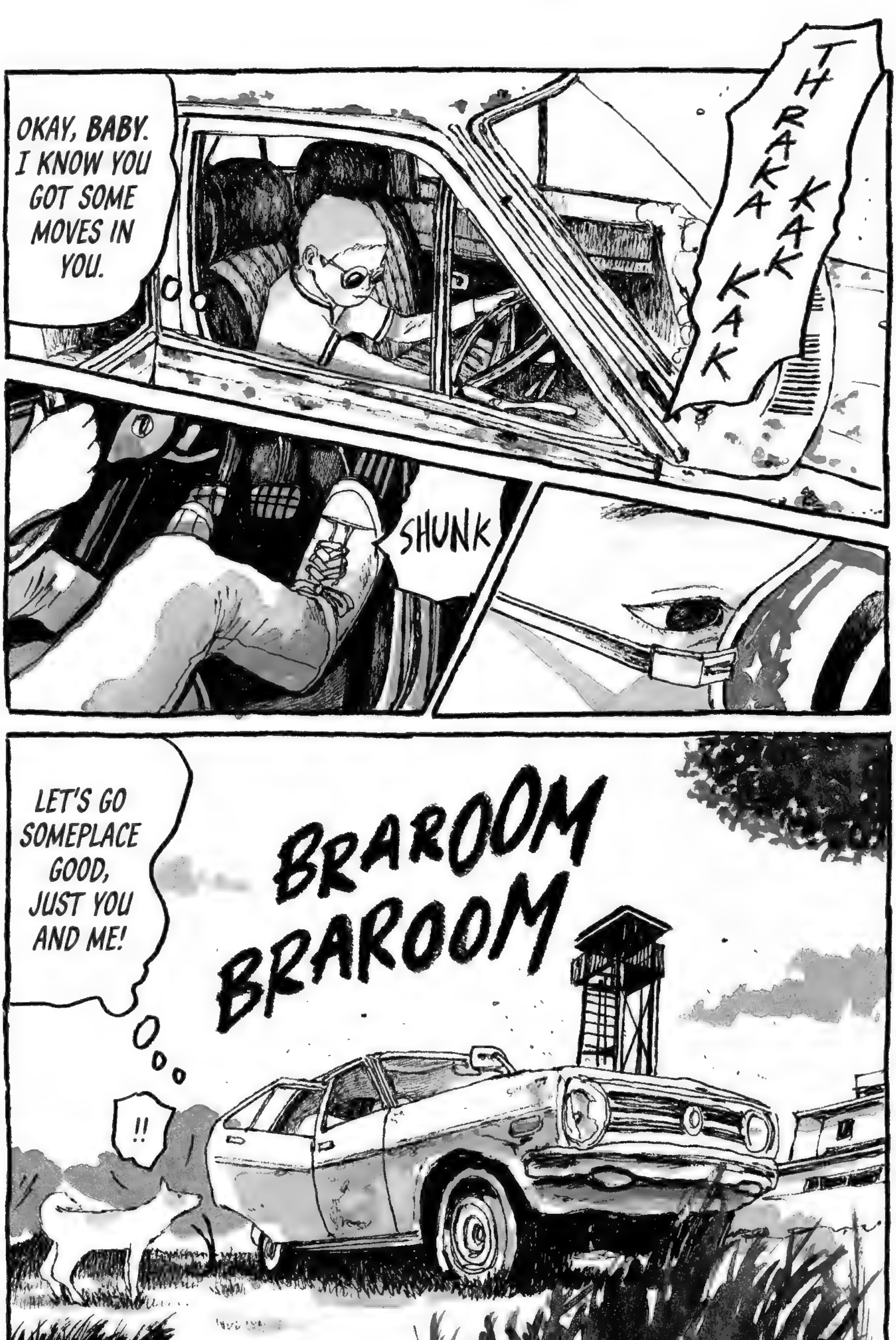
WOW, THEY'RE JUS' THROWIN' IT OUT.
FOR REAL ...
SOME GUYS CAME AND MISS MITSUKO TOLD 'EM "DISPOSE OF IT."
AND SHOSUKE KEEPS GETTING HURT WHERE IT'S ALL RUSTY.
MR. ADACHI FOUND KENJI AND TSUTOMU SMOKING IN HERE THE OTHER DAY.
...
WHEN ARE YOU GOIN' UP THERE, MEGUMU?
ARF
C'MON!
KURIMARU, SETTLE DOWN!
ARF
UM ...
MY UNCLE'S GONNA COME PICK ME UP NEXT WEEK.
IT'S REALLY COLD ...
THAT'S WHAT MR. ADACHI SAID.
OH YEAH. HE SAID THEY CAN'T EVEN PUT THEIR HEATING STOVES AWAY YET.
I'LL BE LIVIN' IN HAKODATE SOON.
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE ...

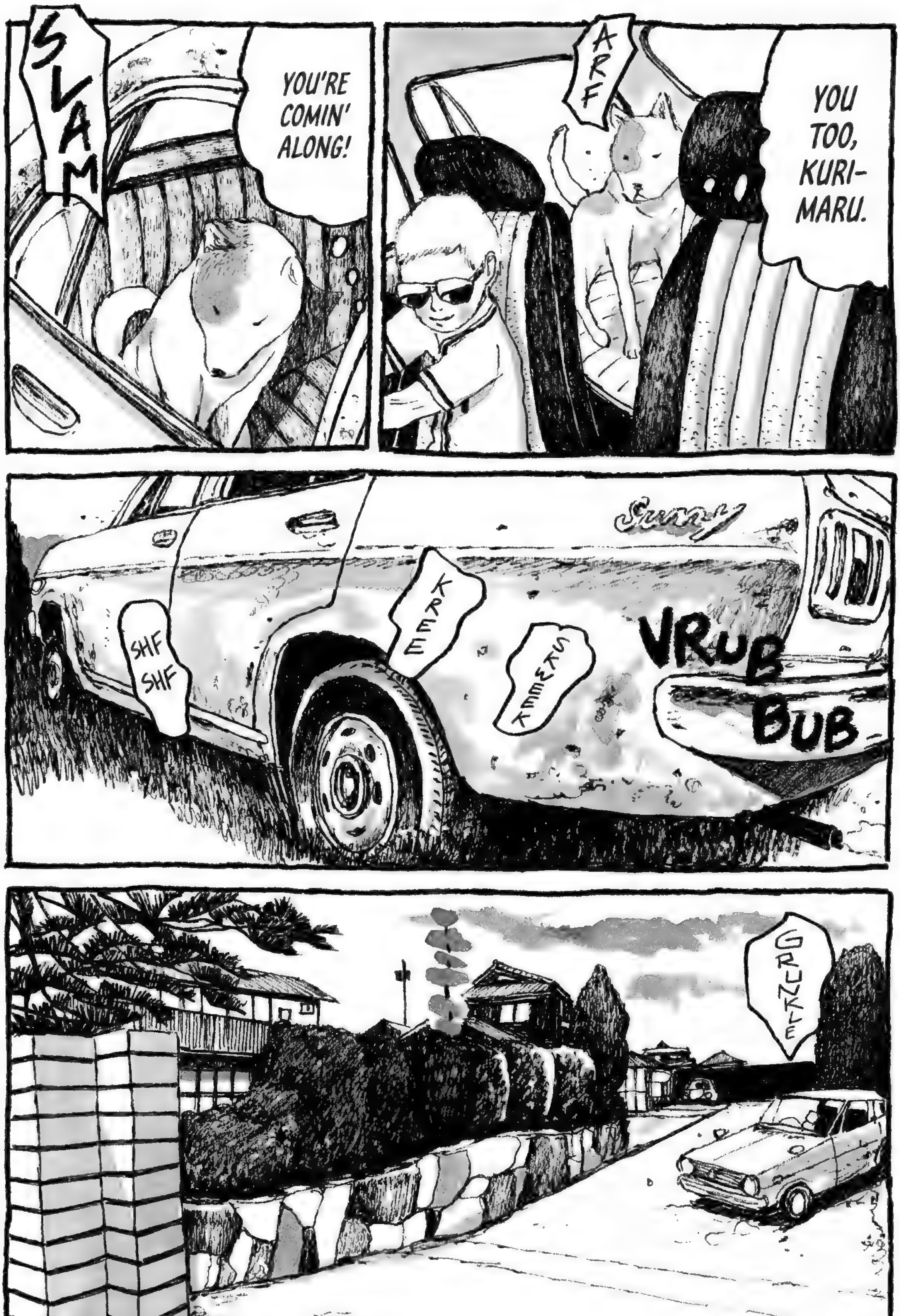
*Sign: Good Luck Megumu

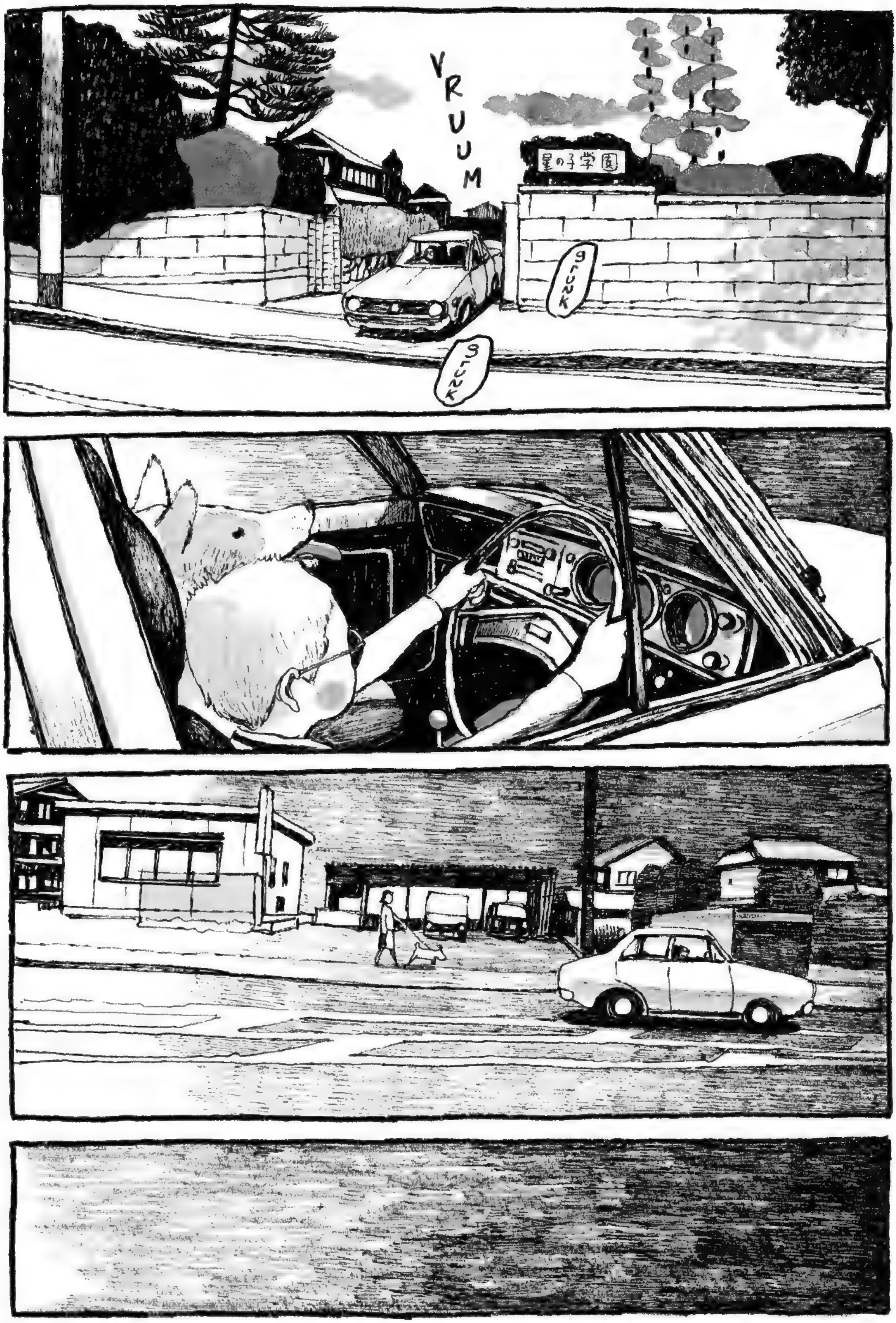
THAT'S GREAT. YOUR UNCLE SOUNDS LIKE A NICE GUY.
YEAH ...
UM, HARUO...
ACTUALLY, Y'KNOW... ALL OF A SUDDEN I'M GETTIN' KIND OF *SCARED*. LAST NIGHT I EVEN *CRIED* A LITTLE.
I WONDER WHY.
I GUESS MAYBE IT'S 'CAUSE I STARTED TO FORGET ABOUT MY MOM AND DAD...
...BUT I MADE UP MY MIND...
...THAT I'M GONNA *LOVE* MY AUNT AND UNCLE IN HAKO-DATE.

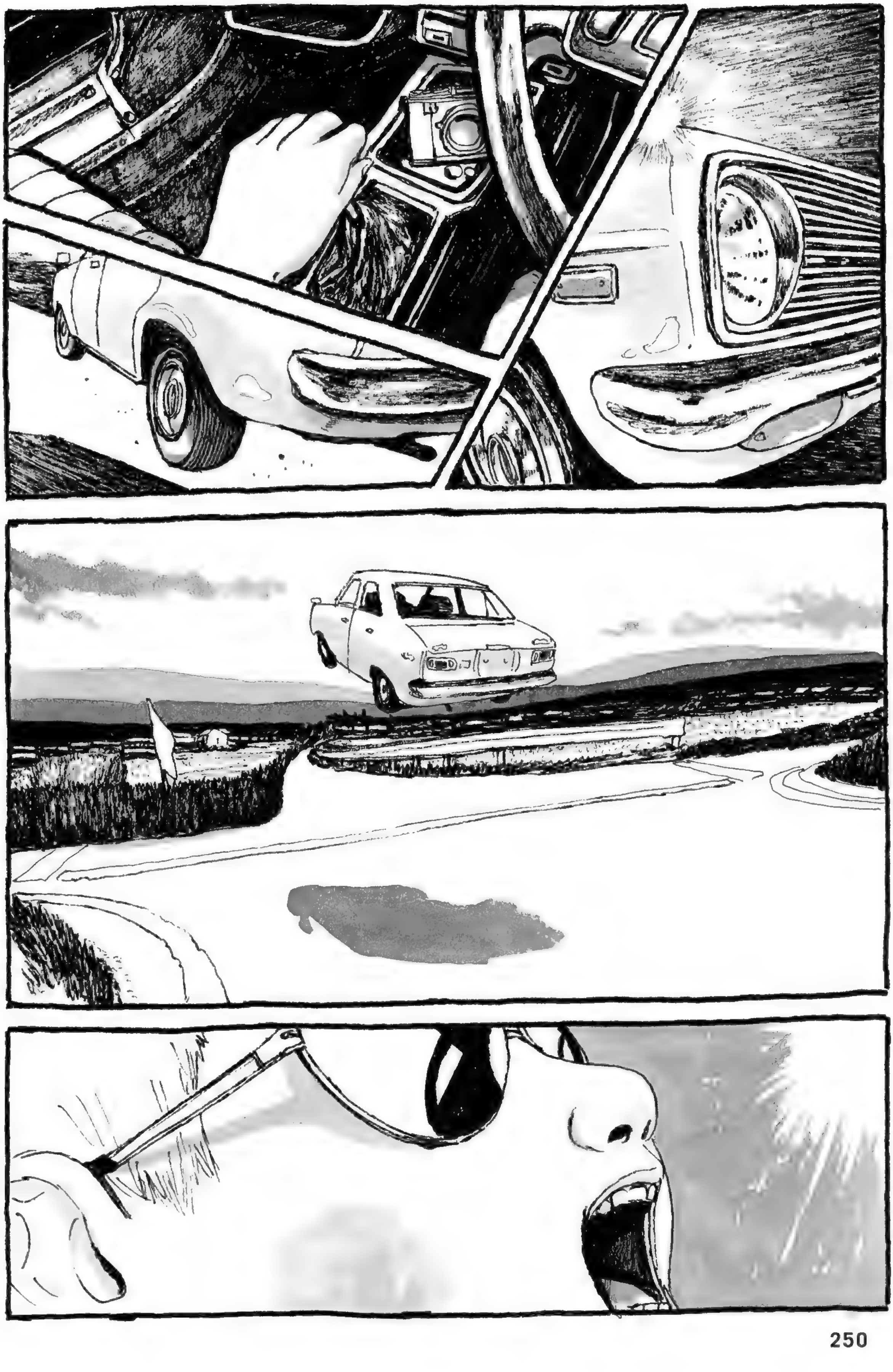
SO THAT'S WHY I MADE UP MY MIND LIKE THAT.
...
AND I FEEL LIKE MAYBE MY MOM AND DAD ARE TELLIN' ME, "IT'S OKAY."
MEGUMU.
MISS MITSUKO SAYS TA COME IN AND GET DRESSED SOON.
'KAY.
I'M COMING!
ARF


GONNA STAY OVER TONIGHT, HARUO?
YEAH... I THINK I PROB'LY WILL.
REALLY?! KIKO'LL BE HAPPY TOO.
ARF
ARF
ARF
IS MISS MITSUKO ANGRY?
WE LOOKED EVERYWHERE FOR YOU, MEGUMU.
HURRY, HURRY.
ARF
ARF
OKAY SUNNY, HOW 'BOUT IT?


OKAY, BABY. I KNOW YOU GOT SOME MOVES IN YOU.
THRAKA KAK KAK KAK KAK
SHUNK
LET'S GO SOMEPLACE GOOD, JUST YOU AND ME!
BRAROOM BRAROOM
!!

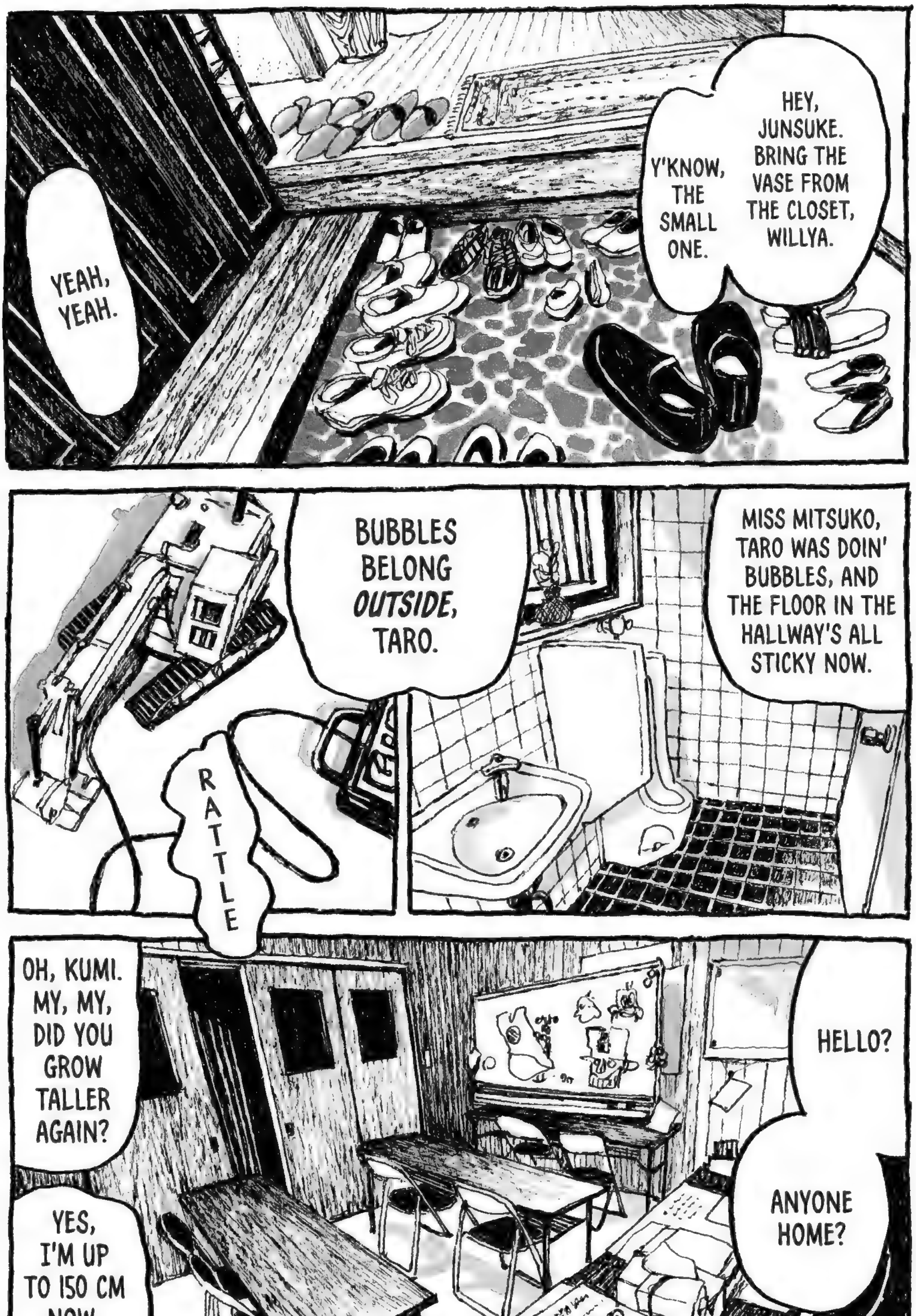

SLAM
YOU'RE COMIN' ALONG!
ARF
YOU TOO, KURI-MARU.
Sunny
SHF SHF
KREE
SKWEEK
VRUB BUB
GRUNKLE


VRUUM
星の子学園
GRUNK
GRUNK



I KNEW IT, SUNNY!
YOU'RE THE *BEST* !!

WHEREVER WE GO, IT'S GONNA BE SOMEPLACE GREAT!


HEY, JUNSUKE. BRING THE VASE FROM THE CLOSET, WILLYA.
Y'KNOW, THE SMALL ONE.
YEAH, YEAH.
MISS MITSUKO, TARO WAS DOIN' BUBBLES, AND THE FLOOR IN THE HALLWAY'S ALL STICKY NOW.
BUBBLES BELONG *OUTSIDE*, TARO.
RATTLE
HELLO?
ANYONE HOME?
OH, KUMI. MY, MY, DID YOU GROW TALLER AGAIN?
YES, I'M UP TO 150 CM NOW.

GONNA DELIVER THE EVENING EDITION NOW, KENJI?
YEAH.
BE BACK AS FAST AS I CAN.
SAVE ME SOME FRIED CHICKEN, WILLYA?
東高
HEEEY! WHERE'S HARUO?
JUS' SAW HIM IN THE SUNNY, *SLEEPING.*
KOJI, YOU ONLY GET TWO *OHAGI* DUMPLINGS, ONE RED BEAN PASTE AND ONE SOYBEAN FLOUR.
YOU ALWAYS EAT ONLY THE BEAN PASTE ONES, SO SOME OF THE KIDS DON'T GET *ANY.*
FIIINE.

WOW!
MEGUMU LOOKS *SO CUTE.*
YEAH, JUST LIKE A LITTLE DOLL.
STOP LOOKING. YOU'RE EMBARASSING ME...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT? SHOW OFF, YOU'RE THE STAR OF THE SHOW TONIGHT!
HEY, MR. ADACHI, I GOT THE VASE!
GREAT. SO NOW PUT IN THE FLOWERS I BROUGHT.
DON'T FORGET TO WASH YOUR HANDS, EVERYONE!
YES, MA'AM.
WASH UP AND COME TO THE LIVING ROOM!!

LET'S START MEGUMU'S GOING-AWAY PARTY!
めぐむちゃん おげんきで

Sunny END

王将
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Thank you

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SUNNY

Volume 6
VIZ Signature Edition

Story and art by **Taiyo MATSUMOTO**

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
SUNNY is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up.

TAIYO MATSUMOTO

is best known to English-reading audiences as the creator of ***Tekkonkinkreet***, which in 2006 was made into an animated feature film of the same name, directed by Michael Arias. In 2007 Matsumoto was awarded a **Japan Media Arts Festival Excellence Award**, and in 2008 he won an **Eisner Award** for the English publication of ***Tekkonkinkreet***.

Also available in **ENGLISH** by **TAIYO MATSUMOTO**

- *Blue Spring*
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